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Editor – S. S. Mitra

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Front Cover – Eastern Kingbird, Montezuma NWR, *Seneca*, 8 Jun 2013,
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Back Cover – Fork-tailed Flycatcher, East Hampton, *Suffolk*, 25 Jun 2013,
© Terry Sullivan.

RECENT STATUS OF THE BLUE GROSBEAK ON STATEN ISLAND AND IN NEW YORK STATE

Michael J. Shanley III

Staten Island, NY

falecore@yahoo.com

The Blue Grosbeak is an enigmatic species throughout much of New York. Traditionally considered a species of the southeastern United States, its presence in New York has generally been restricted to the extreme southeast portions.

Southeastern New York lies at the boundary of the Canadian and Carolinian biotic zones, each with different average temperatures and floral-faunal associations (Ritchie and Funk 1971). Staten Island and eastern Long Island's flora and fauna have closer affinities with regions to our south, and the Blue Grosbeak can certainly be considered one such example.

The occurrence of Blue Grosbeaks in coastal New York goes back as far as the 19th Century (Cruickshank 1942). Early records from New York include a specimen collected by DeKay in Manhattan during the spring of 1838, and from Bicknell, who reported an individual on Long Island in 1878 (Braislin 1907).

Since then, the Blue Grosbeak has slowly but steadily increased its breeding range through the 20th Century, reaching northern New Jersey by the 1970s (Buckley and Davis 1973), and New York by the early 1980s (Siebenheller and Siebenheller 1982).

The presence of a pair of Blue Grosbeaks on Staten Island in June 1981 was the first indication that breeding might have occurred in the state (Carroll 1988), and nesting was confirmed on Staten Island the following year (Siebenheller and Siebenheller 1982). Since then, the bird has continued to expand its breeding range in New York, breeding as far north as Orange County (Carroll 1988), and at several sites on Long Island (McGowan 2008; S. Mitra, pers. comm.). Although Blue Grosbeaks appear to have established a regular breeding presence in central-eastern Long Island, this bird is still a good find on the outer beaches and remains very rare anywhere else in the New York City/Long Island region (Mitra and Lindsay 2005). Scattered late spring and early summer records from as far north as the Hudson-Mohawk region have occurred in recent years, but breeding has yet to be detected there (Will Raup, pers. comm.).

Blue Grosbeaks are riparian edge specialists, occurring at forest/field edges or at forest/gravel-bar interfaces. Blue Grosbeaks prefer herbaceous annuals and young, shrubby trees. Tall plants, shrubs and trees may be important in providing singing perches and shade for nest sites. Plant growth form is likely more important than plant species (White 1998). Populations may be expected to benefit from the abandonment of agricultural land where the species breeds. The Blue Grosbeak does not generally accept suburban habitats, so urban sprawl into suitable habitat may be detrimental to this species (Ingold 1993).

Regionally speaking, the two main loci for Blue Grosbeaks have historically been and continue to be concentrated in New Jersey, to the southwest of Staten

Island, and in central and eastern Long Island. On Long Island, the traditional strongholds for this species have included Eastport and Calverton. Both of these locations offer attractive breeding habitat, consisting predominately of dense low growth in semi-open country.

During the late spring and early summer of 2013, Staten Island (Richmond Co.) experienced an unprecedented influx of Blue Grosbeaks. The first reports came at the end of May (Anthony Ciancimino, pers. comm.), and subsequently multiple birds at numerous sites throughout Staten Island were reported well into the breeding season. In most instances, sightings were of singing males, but in at least once instance a pair was seen attempting to nest (Baksh 2013). Multiple individuals were noted at Mount Loretto DEC Unique Area, Cemetery of the Resurrection in Pleasant Plains and the former Fresh Kills Landfill in Travis. Some of these individuals lingered into the early fall. This was an unprecedented occurrence locally, and certainly noteworthy for New York.

A few scenarios have been considered to explain the sudden increase in abundance. The first possibility is simply that more people are actively looking for this species in the field, and reporting it to eBird (William Raup, pers. comm.). This seems to be the simplest explanation, and certainly could not be ruled out. Perhaps the increase was merely a localized anomaly due to favorable weather conditions, after a good breeding season and above-average dispersal from areas to our south. Lastly, it is also possible that the species is undergoing a range expansion similar to what was seen in New York with the Chuck-will's-widow during the late seventies. It should be noted however that the Chuck-will's-widow population expansion has seemingly stalled, with some local populations having since contracted (e.g., Long Island) and others having disappeared (e.g., Staten Island) (Mitra 2008; pers. obs).

In order to try and shed some light on the current status of the Blue Grosbeak in New York, I carried out an analysis of eBird data from the past five years. I compiled and graphed three data sets via the eBird graphing tool. I looked at the relative abundance of Blue Grosbeak sightings in New York from 2009-2013 (Figure 1), the abundance of Blue Grosbeaks in New York during the breeding season (June-July) from 2009-2013 (Figure 2), and finally the abundance of Blue Grosbeak sightings in Richmond County (Staten Island) from 2009-2013 (Figure 3). These figures are printed in color in the centerfold of the present issue.

The data suggest that over the past five years, there has been an overall increase throughout our region during both migration and the breeding season. Total annual numbers of Blue Grosbeak sightings in New York increased from a high count of eight in 2009 to a high count of 31 in 2013. During the breeding season, this trend continued with a high count of four in 2009, and 31 in 2013. If these data are to be taken at face value, they suggest a healthy increase over the past five years, after what may have been a cyclical lull since first making headway into the state during the early eighties.

To conclude, it must be acknowledged that eBird is a fairly new technology, and the reliability of data likely deteriorates the farther back in time one goes. It will certainly be interesting to see what the data reveal over the course of the

next five years, as the use of eBird continues to proliferate in the birding community, and as more birders keep an eye out for this species in proper habitat and input their data into eBird.

eBird has given amateur citizen scientists access to valuable data, and the tools to analyze those data in order to better understand local species dynamics over periods of time. The author looks forward to seeing what the next five years bring for this fascinating species in New York!

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NOTES ON BALD EAGLES NESTING ON GARDINER'S ISLAND, EAST HAMPTON, NEW YORK

MaryLaura Lamont
woodpink59@gmail.com

While conducting the annual 2006 Christmas Bird Count on Gardiner's Island, Suffolk County, a section covered by the Montauk count circle, I observed from a distance through my spotting scope a new and very large nest. I could clearly see it from my high hill vantage point but had already walked past that area, missing it up close. I estimated it was about one half mile from my viewpoint. This nest was so large I toyed with the idea of it being an eagle's nest, and there were two immature eagles nearby over Bostwick Pond. They were locking talons together and twisting and turning down towards the pond, breaking apart before hitting the water. We usually do find eagles on the island during the count, so nothing was unusual in that respect. But I had covered this area of the ancient Bostwick Forest with my husband since 1994 and had never seen this nest before. Eagles hadn't nested on Long Island or Gardiner's Island in perhaps 50-60 years or so. As always, I was subject to a time limit on the beautiful island, and it was time to head back to board the boat that would bring us back to the "mainland" of East Hampton, at Three Mile Harbor. So, I resigned myself to trying to get to the nest on next year's count, if I would be so lucky to get over to Gardiner's Island again.

From 2007-2009 we were not allowed access to the island to count birds, so for three years the area was off limits. We finally returned in 2010 and once again I saw the large nest through my scope from the overlook of Lone Tree Hill. Too far to backtrack to it and catch the boat on time, I had to wait for yet another year, hoping to finally see it up close to confirm it as an eagle's nest.

In 2011, I finally examined the nest up close and it indeed was an eagle's nest. It was about three quarters of the way up in the crotch of an old oak tree, not very far from the open pond area and near the edge of the forest. It was the largest nest I had ever seen in my life. I was constantly harassed by a female adult bald eagle while I lingered in the area. A male, which I assumed to be her mate, was circling nearby but not as close as she was to me. She was very agitated with me so I quickly left the area, only to watch an immature Bald Eagle come in and perch off to the side of the nest. The adult female bird did not harass the immature, but she did continue to harass me, and I assumed it might have been her offspring from this year. She eventually left me alone as I made my way out among the giant forest trees. Her behavior convinced me she owned this nest, and was defending this active site even though it was long past breeding season for eagles. Hiking up to the hilltop vantage where I had initially observed the nest so many years before, I spotted another immature eagle over the pond area. It's hard to say if both immatures were her offspring but I'm sure the one near the nest was.

I certainly was glad after several years delay to finally have seen the nest up close. This would be Long Island's first Bald Eagle nest after so many years absent as a breeder. My old birding friends always said that if eagles did come back, they would nest on Gardiner's Island—and they were right.

Respecting the wishes of the Goulet family, who own Gardiner's Island, one must not take any photographs of anything on the island and before we hike its magnificent hills, fields, forests, swamps and marshes we must sign a legal paper stating so. It is only because of the generosity of the family that we get to go there at all on any given year, and a family member must be in attendance when the bird counters go there. I mentioned to Robert Goulet that he had an eagle's nest on his island, the first in literally over half a century.

In 2012 on the annual Christmas Count, Mr. Goulet said he had seen an eagle in the nest earlier in the year. When I showed my husband the nest this year we were "escorted" out of the area by two very agitated adult Bald Eagles. There was a huge amount of whitewash all over and underneath the nest on the forest floor and adjacent shrubs. This is convincing evidence of an active nest site, and one that is defended by the eagles year round. Of course, definitive proof would be finding the eagles incubating eggs in late winter or feeding chicks in May.

The former Director of Natural Resources in the Town of East Hampton, Larry Penny, has stated that for years now on the South Fork of Long Island many people from spring to summer see adult Bald Eagles going back and forth to Gardiner's Island. Geoff LeBaron, the North American Director of the Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Counts, had told me that the Connecticut River Valley eagles (just north of us) were doing very well, and their population had to expand sooner or later to new areas. He also stated that the Connecticut River Valley eagles defend their nest sites year round. They may wander about but they are not highly migratory like the more northern eagles are. Studies prove the fact that there are year round residents here who defend their nests against other eagles trying to take them over. Another reason they stay all year is that our waters stay relatively free from ice in the winter, providing the eagles with a food supply so they do not have to migrate.

Gardiner's Island is a perfect choice for them as it is remote, not open to the public, and very quiet. Historically the island was part of their Long Island nesting territory before they became endangered. The Gardiner's Island eagles defend their magnificent nest site year round and they prove that to me every year I go near their massive nest. Gardiner's Island once again has eagles nesting on it, after so long absent as a breeder, and it's been an honor to have discovered this and to report it to you.

In Memory of Jim Clinton, Sr. March 29, 1932 - May 31, 2013

Robert Adamo
radamo4691@gmail.com

Jim was born in Chicago, and was a lifelong fan of the Chicago White Sox baseball team—holding that conviction to the end, in spite of the many Yankee and Met fans who had him surrounded!

He received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Biology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his Doctorate in Radiation Research from Temple University in Philadelphia. He taught Biology at schools in Florida and Pennsylvania prior to securing employment at the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), in Upton, L.I., NY. He started in its Biology Department, before transferring into the Radiation Research Group, retiring from there in 2000. This last position required him (on a yearly basis) to travel to the Marshall Islands in the Pacific, to test for the current levels of radiation still present from the nuclear bomb-testing program carried out some 70 years earlier. The three huge up-sides of this assignment were: being routed through the Hawaiian Islands, enabling Jim to take vacation days on the return leg; seeing many of the bird species found in that part of the world, including pelagics, terns, shorebirds and endemics; and without trying too hard, he was able to observe many other animals in their natural settings, such as whales, porpoises, turtles, and fish.

Jim exemplified an intelligent, thoughtful, unassuming and caring person. I first met him in December, 1976, when I had the good fortune of having a special bird visit my feeders in Wading River. This led to meeting many of the area's serious birders, including the BNL contingent led by Gil Raynor. They asked if I would like to take part in the upcoming Christmas Bird Count, and this led to joining the Moriches Bay Audubon Society (MBAS), and the many, wonderful experiences with Jim through the ensuing years. He served MBAS (now known as Eastern L.I. Audubon Society) at many levels, including long-time field trip leader, delegate to The Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, board member, Vice President, and even President, a position which really didn't suit his personality...but he accepted the nomination in order to help MBAS through a critical period in its history.

Jim was an excellent birder, in spite of having sight in only one eye. He also was the inspirational compiler of our chapter's Christmas, Breeding and "Big Day" Bird Counts for many years. As such, along with being our monthly field trip leader, Jim was always the patient teacher to many of our members, as they developed into responsible birders and naturalists. Two of these counts stick out in my mind as examples of his spirit and leadership.

The first count, like all the previous and future "May Day" counts led by Jim, lasted all day—starting by looking and listening for rails, bitterns, "goatsuckers" and owls before dawn, going "all out" the rest of the day, finishing after dark, and then looking and listening again for what we missed in *The Kingbird* 2013 December; 63 (4)

the morning. It had rained all night, and didn't stop until about noon. With raingear not being what it is today, we were drenched by daybreak! With Jim Sr. driving, Jim Jr. keeping score, and Clarence Swanson and myself praying for Jim Sr. to admit defeat, we "floated" out of Wading River and headed east, to cover the rest of the North Fork. Despite the weather, we were getting a fair number of species. Calverton, Baiting Hollow, Riverhead, Northville, Aquebogue, and Jamesport came and went, with the only thing not drenched being Sr.'s enthusiasm! Lo and behold, the rain stopped in Laurel and the sun came out in Mattituck, continuing to shine brightly for the rest of the day! We finished that day back in a Riverhead parking lot tallying up the day's species, under an old style lighting fixture (which did, unlike its replacements, attract insects) as we kept trying to record the day's first nighthawk. While I'm not sure of the final number (Jim Jr. thinks it might have been 154) we did exceed our earlier expectations. This of course, was due primarily to Jim's strong, quiet leadership.

The 2000 Orient CBC was held on December 30, with the weather, albeit snow this time, bringing out the quiet tiger in Jim. After Gil Raynor became incapacitated in 1984, Jim took over many of Gil's responsibilities, one of them as the Shelter Island (North Sector) leader. Keeping all of Gil's protocols in place, plans called for making the earliest (0600) ferry out of Greenport, birding till dark, catching the ferry back to the mainland, and getting to the compilation party at MaryLaura Lamont's house in Northville as quick as we could. It had been snowing since about 2 AM and continued as we left Wading River at 5 AM. With the questionable weather, Jim did have his doubts about getting in a full day. Once on Shelter Island, we found the snow coming down much harder and the wind blowing stronger—in my mind, the word "blizzard" came to the fore. Shortly afterward, it got so bad that we had to stop, finding an open luncheonette where we waited out the storm. About two hours later we resumed the count, finishing with a Screech-Owl—one of our morning misses! Upon reaching MaryLaura's, amidst all the snow, the absence of cars was a telling sign. When she came to the door, she was flabbergasted! Most of her participants had either not started, or pulled out mid-morning. A few had indeed finished their sector, after stopping at times, but skipped the compilation, phoning in their results. We (read, Jim) had "stayed the course" and now wanted to be fed—which Mary Laura was overjoyed to do.

Jim was predeceased by his wife, Loretta, and leaves behind daughters Karen and Kathleen, and sons Jim Jr. and Richard, as well as five grandchildren. Jim Sr.'s birding legacy is being carried on by Jim Jr., who has his father's personality and birding skills, plus one talent he has surpassed his Dad at—calling in birds with his Screech-Owl vocalizations!

NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
66TH ANNUAL MEETING, UNIONDALE, NY
2 NOVEMBER 2013

The 66th Annual Meeting of the New York State Ornithological Association, Inc. (NYSOA) was held at the Long Island Marriott Hotel in Uniondale, NY, on November 2, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 10:45am. Roll Call of member clubs showed 25 delegates from 16 clubs in attendance and a quorum present. Kathy Schneider made a motion to approve the September 29, 2012, Annual Meeting minutes as published in the December 2012 issue of *The Kingbird*. Andy Mason seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

President's Report by Gail Kirch:

Gail applauded Director Seth Ausubel and the Queens County Bird Club members for stepping up and planning the first Annual Meeting on Long Island since 1990. His QCBC Committee worked closely with other NYSOA Board members, notably Shai Mitra, to put on a very successful and well-attended conference. Gail also hailed the new editors of the newsletter, Richard and Cyndy Tkachuck, who stepped up just in time after Tim Baird's retirement. She noted that getting and retaining new members continues to be a challenge, and that we need to find ways to encourage members of our member clubs to participate in NYSOA. The Young Birders Club continues to grow. Gail asked everyone to encourage young birders to go on our website and see all the advantages of membership. The Board of NYSOA is seeking younger adults to fill positions on the Board and for NYSARC. Meetings between the NYSOA Conservation Committee and representatives from the DEC have not been happening regularly because of DEC budget cutbacks but Kathy Schneider is working on getting a representative at our regular Board meetings. Next year's Annual Meeting will be in Ithaca, hosted by the Cayuga Bird Club. Lastly, Gail introduced the present officers and Board members of NYSOA.

Treasurer's Report by Andy Mason:

Andy provided Balance Sheets of Assets and Fund Balances for 2012 and as of September 2013, and also a Detailed Statement of General Operating Fund Activity as of December 31, 2012. He noted that our balance for September of 2013 was lower than the balance for September of 2012 and that we had a several year deficit. The largest expenditures continue to be for our publications. He encouraged members to renew at higher levels to address this deficit.

Vote on South Shore Audubon Society request for NYSOA membership:

Shai Mitra made a motion to accept SSAS as a member club in NYSOA. Andy Mason seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NYSOA Elections:

Andy Mason gave the **Nominating Committee Report**. The committee nominated the following 2013-2014 slate of Officers and Directors for election: *The Kingbird* 2013 December; 63 (4)

Kathy Schneider – President
Carena Pooth – Vice President
Janet Allison – Recording Secretary
Andy Mason – Treasurer

Seth Ausubel – Director (2015)
Tim Baird – Director (2015)
Jeff Bolsinger – Director (2015)
Mary Beth Warburton – Director (2015)

Joan Collins made a motion to accept the slate as nominated; John Confer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Gail Kirch announced the following names for election to the 2013-2014 **Nominating Committee**: Mike DeSha (Chair), Bob Adamo, Andy Mason. Tim Baird made a motion to approve the selection; Shai Mitra seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Gail Kirch announced the following names for election to the 2013-2014 **Auditing Committee**: John Cairns (Chair), Irving Cantor, Peter Capainolo. Andy Mason made a motion to approve the selection; Tim Baird seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC):

Leslie Lupo of Region 1 Stony Brook gave a report. Shorebirds on Long Island were heavily impacted by Hurricane Sandy, with decreased counts of nesting plovers and terns. Marsh bird surveys found only Virginia Rails. Bobwhite surveys over the last five years found none at all. The DEC wants to close the season on quails but a change in the law is required. Turkey monitoring including hen survivorship data shows turkey populations are not decreasing on Long Island but are in upstate New York. The DEC in concert with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Town of Hempstead continues to monitor waterfowl and band Canada geese. Waterfowl monitoring shows Brant productivity is still good.

Committee Reports:

Auditing Committee: John Cairns gave the report. The Auditing Committee examined the NYSOA books as of December 31, 2012, and, in their opinion, agree that they present fairly the financial condition of the organization.

Archives: Gail Kirch gave the report. The procedures for Archives are complete in the Organizational Handbook. The 2012 papers are ready to go to Cornell.

Awards: Gail Kirch reported that there were three recipients of the Lillian

Stoner Award this year. Gail also reported that she sent three Certificates of Appreciation to 1) Nancy and Albert Loomis for hosting in their yard birders who came to see the Gray-crowned Rosy Finch; 2) Ralph Tabor for his knowledge, postings, and teaching at the Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge; 3) Andrew Baksh for his efforts to protect and manage Jamaica Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

Shai Mitra announced that this year's John J. Elliott Award for the author of the best *Kingbird* article was Joseph Cherek for an article on "Changes in habitat and breeding birds in a Pitch Pine Oak Heath Rocky Summit community at the Mohonk Preserve, Ulster County, NY."

Conservation: Andy Mason gave the report. The committee (Andy, Joan Collins, John Confer, Gerry Smith) participated in a conference call on October 30 with DEC staff. Discussion included cormorant management, Great Lakes avian botulism, bobcat hunting and trapping, Common Tern management on Niagara River, DEC's Wild Turkey study, hunting of rails and snipe, and DEC representation at NYSOA meetings. Other efforts included continued involvement in the Enterprise Park at Calverton coalition monitoring development proposals for this large grassland habitat in eastern Long Island; continued participation in the Plum Island coalition and efforts to ensure that Plum Island off Long Island is protected rather than developed; writing DEC Commissioner Joe Martens regarding the China City of America project in Sullivan County, near the Bashakill Wildlife Management Area; meeting with DEC Region 7 Lands and Forests staff to discuss management for Golden-winged Warblers on state land; and submitting comments on the draft general management plan for the Gateway National Recreation Area. The committee also prepared columns for *New York Birders* on feral cats in NY State parks; Golden-winged Warbler management; Bicknell's Thrush; and wind development proposals on Amherst Island, Ontario. Mary Beth Warburton is being added to the committee.

Joan Collins gave an update on two constitutional amendments to be voted on in the upcoming Tuesday election. The first involved a land exchange so that mining for wollastonite could be done on Forest Preserve land. She noted that local environmental groups were split on approving this. The second involved the clearing of titles for some private landowners around Finch-Pruyn lands that the state acquired and wanted to open to the public.

Seth Ausubel gave an update on the status of Jamaica Bay reconstruction. The Park Service general management plan gave preference to Plan B, which emphasizes recreation over reconstruction of the West Pond habitat, now a mudflat since Hurricane Sandy. Seth and Angus Wilson are representing NYSOA, in concert with NYC Audubon, to get the Park Service to emphasize wildlife protection instead. He encouraged all to submit comments and sign the petition to repair the West Pond.

County Lists: Carena Pooth gave the report. She emphasized that this was a fun competition for individuals to develop a life list for every county in the state. 97

lists were submitted for 2012. A new feature was added to the 2012 report – total county list ticks. All data is available on the NYSOA website at nybirds.org/ProjCountyLists.html. It includes an archive of all compilations since the project's inception in 1992.

eBird: There was no eBird report.

Field Trips: Kathy Schneider gave the report. Field trips consist of an educational workshop on Saturday afternoon and a field trip on Sunday. Two trips were held in 2013, both well attended. The first was a Canton based, north country loop of St. Lawrence County, led by Joan Collins. The second was near Watertown, where Jeff Bolsinger gave a workshop on Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warblers. Plans for next year include a winter owl or raptor trip, a spring waterfowl trip, and a summer loon trip. Kathy is looking for a co-chair for this committee.

Finance: There was no Finance report.

Membership: Barbara Butler gave the report. There are currently 519 annual members plus 48 life members for a total of 567 individual members, a number that has declined most of the past 10 years, with the exception of 2011. There are 42 member clubs, including the new club, South Shore Audubon Society. Life member Robert Long passed away.

New York State Avian Records Committee: There was no NYSARC report given.

NYS Young Birders Club: Carena Pooth gave the report and thanked the generous partner clubs and individual supporters that make it possible to offer quality monthly field trips to the young birders. This fall marks the fifth anniversary of the club, which now has 40 youth members, 34 supporting adults, and 20 partner clubs. The World Series of Birding is their most important fundraising event, with the money going to the Education Fund. Two teams participated this year, with both limiting their birding to Cape May County. This year we are awarding \$3500 in scholarships to 15 young birders. The club now has its own Flickr group page, where members can upload their own photos. The page was set up and is administered by one of the Youth Members.

Organizational Handbook: Mike DeSha gave the report. The Handbook is almost complete. Mike noted that all the chairs have done a good job in writing up the responsibilities of their jobs.

Publications:

- **NY Birders:** Kathy Schneider gave the report for the editors, Richard and Cyndy Tkachuck. Kathy thanked them for taking over and also creating a new electronic version, which is easier to produce and provides a better

product at less cost. The Board conducted a pilot study with 100 members, sending them both the mailed paper version and the emailed electronic version, and the response was very positive to the e-version. Since the club is running a deficit and the newsletter costs about \$4000 per year, members will be asked if they want to opt-in on this year's renewal statements.

- **The Kingbird:** Shai Mitra gave the report. Because of the impact of eBird, we get information about bird sightings differently now, and some editors of regional reports are bowing out, thinking that the reports are not relevant. He plans to revisit the guidelines for these reports and is looking at changing the focus and format of them. Scientific articles on bird distribution and biology will continue. Joan Collins thanked Shai for doing such a big job well.
- **New York State Checklist:** Carena Pooth gave the report. NYSOA's *Checklist of the Birds of New York State* has been updated to incorporate changes made to the AOU checklist as described in its 54th supplement, published in July 2013. The new NYSOA checklist booklet is available for purchase through the NYSOA website or on the membership renewal form.

Research: There was no Research report.

Website and Information Services: Carena Pooth gave the report. County Listing archives are now all up on the website. A writing section has been added to the NYSYBC website.

Old Business: Gail Kirch announced that the Elon Howard Eaton Memorial Award (not a NYSOA award) for a "significant contribution to the ecology of New York State" will no longer be a state-wide award but will be local to the area around Montezuma NWR only.

New Business: Gail Kirch announced that the 2014 Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Cayuga Bird Club in Ithaca, NY, on September 19-21, 2014. A committee including Donna Scott and Linda Orkin is working on details. On the Friday, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology will host a reception with an open house and tours including the vertebrate collection. For the 2015 Annual Meeting, Jeremiah Smart, president of Hudson Mohawk Bird Club, is working on getting a committee together.

Adjournment: Kathy Schneider made a motion to adjourn; Shai Mitra seconded the motion and it passed unanimously at 12:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Allison
Recording Secretary

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—SUMMER 2013

Andrew Guthrie

391 Jacobs Road, Hamlin, NY
andyguthrie@gmail.com

The Weather

The recurrent theme regarding the weather this season was well above average precipitation, primarily in June and early July, in many Regions. This was especially pronounced in northern and eastern Regions, including Region 5, where some areas received up to 12" of rain during the month, Region 7, where June's precipitation was 200% higher than normal, and Region 8 where the precipitation was nearly six inches higher than average. The extent of rain early in the breeding season seemed to disrupt many nesting species. Conversely, this same weather likely contributed to widespread excellent fruit crops by later summer. The remainder of the summer season was less eventful; in particular, there were no tropical weather events during the period.

Breeding Birds

Several Regional reports speculated that the high precipitation in June had a detrimental effect on nesting success this summer, particularly in the hardest hit areas such as the eastern half of Region 5. There many flooded areas were inaccessible so the actual extent of losses couldn't be fully documented, although a number of monitored Common Loon and duck nests were lost. In Region 9, high water was responsible for washing out Common Gallinule nests, but it was thought to have occurred early enough in the season for re-nesting.

In Region 3, cold snaps in early June led to one of the least successful breeding seasons for a long-running Tree Swallow monitoring project. In more positive news, a small breeding colony of Henslow's Sparrows was found in Region 1, with up to seven birds present with evidence of breeding, and some welcome encouraging news in Region 6, where for the first time Henslow's were found in grasslands managed for the past several years under a landowner incentive program run by New York State. Grassland management had more mixed success in Region 9, where activist efforts led to reduced mowing on the Croton Point Park landfill, leading to the return of Grasshopper Sparrow, Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark; unfortunately the grasslands there were mowed in mid-July and breeding of these species was not confirmed.

Other notable breeding records this season included Region 1's first confirmed breeding of Sandhill Crane at Oak Orchard WMA; first county breeding records of Clay-colored Sparrow in Oneida County and Willet in

Westchester County; and Long Island's first breeding record of Yellow-throated Warbler.

Shorebird Migration

Another consequence of the above-average precipitation experienced in many Regions was a subsequent reduction in available shorebird habitat in traditional locations, particularly along lakeshore locations upstate. The Lake Erie shoreline in Region 1 remained productive, with shorebird highlights there including multiple American Avocets and three Marbled Godwits, the latter representing the Region's first summer record since 1998.

In Region 3, Knox-Marcellus Marsh in Montezuma NWR was productive for much of the summer; records there during the season included high counts of Stilt Sandpiper and American Golden-Plover, a remarkable 48 Hudsonian Godwits, and three Red Knots, an uncommon species inland. Red Knot was also recorded upstate in Region 2, and another individual in Region 3 provided the first Tompkins County record; the latter bird was banded and traced back to Delaware Bay. Elsewhere away from the coast, an excellent count of 32 Solitary Sandpipers was found in Region 5; a single flock of 53 Whimbrel was recorded in Region 6; and American Avocet, Whimbrel, and a first Sullivan County record of Ruddy Turnstone were found in Region 9.

As is often the case, Region 10 turned in a number of shorebird highlights, including Black-necked Stilt, Curlew Sandpiper, two Ruffs, and an apparent Dunlin x White-rumped Sandpiper hybrid. The most remarkable shorebird story involved a two-day, two-state journey culminating in the discovery of a Red-necked Stint at Cupsogue in Region 10— check the Regional report for details!

Summer Wanderers and Rarities

As is often the case, the summer season produced a number of wanderers, strays and interesting records for those willing to fight through the 'summer doldrums'. Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant in Region 1 once again hosted an Eared Grebe, and Red-necked Grebe and Horned Grebe were reported from two and four Regions, respectively. American White Pelicans were relatively widespread, with observations in all reporting Regions except for Regions 5 and 7. Brown Pelican, as usual, was limited to Region 10, where four one-day-only sightings continued a general recent pattern. Summer is often good for wandering herons; this year these included Cattle Egret in Region 1; inland Little Blue Herons in Regions 2 and 9; Tricolored Heron in Region 6; Glossy Ibis in Region 3; and White-faced Ibis at Jamaica Bay in Region 10.

Somewhat surprisingly given the recent trend, there were no apparent nesting Mississippi Kites reported this summer, although cooperative individuals were found enjoying the 17-year cicada outbreaks in Region 9 and

on Staten Island in Region 10. A Swallow-tailed Kite was spectacularly photographed at State Line Lookout—while the photographer was standing in New Jersey, the Kite must have crossed in from New York State immediately prior.

Unseasonal gulls included Little Gulls in Region 1 and Region 8; Laughing Gulls in Region 1 and Region 3; and Black-headed Gull in Region 10. Jaegers made a strong showing for the season, with all three species recorded, including Region 1's first July record of Pomarine Jaeger and second and third July records of Parasitic Jaeger. Region 10 produced several more Pomarine Jaegers, and Long-tailed Jaegers were found in Regions 5 and 10. Cupsogue County Park (Suffolk) in Region 10 experienced the best showing of early summer Arctic Terns to date, and eight Sandwich Terns in the Region were slightly higher than recent norms. Unusual pelagic species in Region 10 included a June Northern Fulmar, White-faced and Leach's Storm-Petrels, and Bridled Tern. More unusual was a Manx Shearwater photographed on the Hudson River in Region 9.

Probably the rarest passerine of the summer was a Fork-tailed Flycatcher, photographed in eastern Long Island on 25 Jun but seen only that day. Other unusual passerines for the season included a Western Kingbird in Region 2, Dickcissel in Region 3, and Yellow-breasted Chats in Regions 1, 5, 9, and 10. The latter days of August brought some good early fall migrants as Connecticut Warblers were found in Regions 5 and 6 and Lark Sparrows in Regions 9 and 10, all of these sightings from 27 August or later.

Perhaps most exciting were two first records for New York State (both pending acceptance by NYSARC). On 3 July an Elegant Tern was identified at Cupsogue County Park in Region 10 and was seen by a number of observers at various locations between there and Shinnecock Inlet to the east over the following five days. On 14 August a Neotropic Cormorant was photographed in a flock of Double-crested Cormorants flying west past Hamlin Beach State Park (Monroe County) in Region 2. Either of these would make a worthy Bird of the Season; my choice here is for the Elegant Tern, which was enjoyed by many more birders during its stay.

REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

Mike Morgante

6405 Woodberry Court, East Amherst, NY 14051

morgm@roadrunner.com

June 2013 held abundant rainfall including several slow moving thunderstorm systems. The mean temperature was 65.7° F, just 0.6° below average. A total of 7.16" of rain fell at the Buffalo airport, 3.50" above average. July's average temperature was 72.5°, 1.4° above normal, with a long stretch of warm and humid weather until a cold front passed on the 19th. Rainfall at Buffalo was 2.86", 0.37" below average. The average August temperature was 77.6°, 0.8° below normal. There was 3.51" of rain, 0.25" above average. Weather data is excerpted from National Weather Service *Monthly Weather Summary* for Buffalo.

Prior to this summer there had only been one jaeger record for June and one for July for Region 1. Thus, it was remarkable to gain three records in July 2013, covering two species. Stephen Sliwinski started things off with some close range photos of a jaeger sitting on the water at Lake Erie off Buffalo on 11 July. In addition to taking some excellent photos, he recorded the GPS position which revealed it was just inside the U.S. side of the international boundary. Sliwinski shared the photos with local birders who quickly determined it was a subadult **Pomarine Jaeger**. This is only the second summer record of this species and the first for July for Region 1.

Jim Pawlicki was stunned to see a jaeger fly overhead to the west at 8 a.m. on 20 July. Adding to the intrigue was that Jim was birding at Carlton Hill Multiple Use Area in Wyoming County, well away from the Great Lakes or any water body. A major cold front with multiple bands of thunderstorms occurred the previous day and night, likely influencing the jaeger's morning location. Jim took some distant photos and along with his familiarity with jaegers was able to identify this bird as a **Parasitic Jaeger**. This is only the second inland record of a jaeger and the first inland for Parasitic in the Region. Later in the month, Jim observed another Parasitic Jaeger from the Erie Basin Marina tower at Buffalo Harbor. These marked only the second and third records ever for July in the Region.

There was also exciting news with breeding species this summer. A **Henslow's Sparrow breeding colony** was discovered near the Chautauqua County airport in the Town of Ellicott. Kirk Vanstrom discovered a singing male on 8 June. Up to seven were documented in July, along with evidence of breeding. The last report was of two on 21 August. This was the first documentation of this species in the Region since 2006. While Henslow's Sparrow has been decreasing throughout western and central New York this century, there appear to be stable if not increasing populations in western Pennsylvania, often associated with reclaimed mining land. As such we can

speculate that the birds in Ellicott may have found their way here from the Pennsylvania population.

Sandhill Cranes nested successfully near Stafford Pond at Oak Orchard WMA; a colt was found with two adults on multiple occasions in June. This is the first documented breeding in the Region, which had been long anticipated based on summer season sightings and nests in adjacent Regions and Niagara Falls, Ontario. There were several reports at Oak Orchard WMA and Iroquois NWR throughout the summer, possibly pertaining to the nesting birds or others. A maximum of six was observed in late August at Oak Orchard. Once again there were summer sightings at Watts Flats WMA where nesting has yet to be documented, but with annual summer sightings it is possible that the only thing missing is the actual evidence of nesting or young.

Lone Trumpeter Swans were observed at Oak Orchard WMA and Batavia WWTP. More surprising in summer were lone **Tundra Swans** at Batavia WWTP and Conewango Swamp WMA in July. A **Canvasback** stuck around Allegany SP until at least 1 June. Ring-necked Ducks apparently summered at several locations including one at Tiff Nature Preserve. Kurt Fox found both an **Eared Grebe** and a **Horned Grebe** at Batavia WWTP in June, and both lingered well into July. Willie D'Anna documented **Red-necked Grebes** on Lake Ontario at Wilson on three occasions in August.

An **American White Pelican** found by Bill Watson at Iroquois NWR became the Region's first July record. A **Cattle Egret** was a surprise find in Mayville by Gale VerHague on 30 August; the first summer record for the Region since 2003. A few **Black Vultures** were seen along the Niagara River in Lewiston on several occasions in each summer month; the second consecutive summer they appeared at this location.

A review of uncommon and/or declining breeding species shows that they were found in mostly similar numbers and locations as in recent years. **Upland Sandpipers** were at Tillman Road WMA, where regular, and in Sheldon, where they continued from spring season. There were several **Common Nighthawk** reports in early June that may have been late migrants. The only location where they apparently summered, and hopefully bred, was in the City of Jamestown. There were only a handful of late summer migrant reports. **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were reported from only three locations, but I suspect that they were just not looked for or reported from some regular recent locations. **Sedge Wren** was reported from grasslands in Iroquois NWR and Alfred in July. Golden-winged Warbler went unreported as a breeder, while "Brewster's" and "Lawrence's" were reported at one location each. **Yellow-throated Warbler** continued its regular presence in the Red House Section of the Allegany SP. **Prothonotary Warblers** were found at Tonawanda WMA after not being located there in May. The **Yellow-breasted Chat** that Doug Beattie found on the last day of May continued well into June at Carlton Hill MUA, where it was suspected to be an unmated bird. **Clay-colored Sparrows** were reported from Olcott and Ashford. **Merlins** nested in Lakewood, where Tom Simmons watched them regularly from early April until 25 July, with two adults and at least two young. Merlins also apparently nested in Allegany SP and Buffalo.

Volunteers for the New York State Purple Martin Project continued to install more nest boxes and monitored colonies at Iroquois NWR, adjacent state WMAs, and some surrounding areas, with 92 nests and 288 fledglings documented. Up to 3,500 Purple Martins were estimated coming to the Buckhorn Island SP roost in late August.

There were several locations at Iroquois NWR and adjacent state WMAs that produced good shorebirding this summer. However, the highlights of the summer shorebird season came from the Lake Erie shoreline. **American Avocets** were observed at Dunkirk Harbor on multiple occasions between 9 July and 7 August. While most sightings were of three birds, photographs showed that at least some different avocets were present; thus, it is highly unlikely that the same three birds were present for a month. Avocets were also observed at Silver Creek and Woodlawn Beach SP on 17-18 July, which were likely the same trio observed earlier in the day at Dunkirk Harbor. While looking for avocets on 14 July, Peter Yoerg was delighted to spot three **Marbled Godwits** at Dunkirk Harbor, providing the Region's first summer record since 1998. **Willetts** were observed along Lake Erie at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek on 14 July, and two were identified at Buffalo Harbor on 31 July. Three **Red-necked Phalaropes** were at Batavia WWTP on 27 August and lingered for several days.

Little Gulls were again found in early summer among immature Bonaparte's Gulls at Fort Niagara SP including three on 15 June. Jim Pawlicki and Bill Watson found a Laughing Gull at Lewiston Reservoir on 24 August. Immature **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were present in June and July at Dunkirk Harbor and at Wilson. There have been increased early summer sightings in recent years. As typical, there was an increase in reports starting in August, including a maximum of eight at Lewiston Reservoir on 31 August. Thirteen immature Great Black-backed Gulls around Buffalo Harbor was a notably higher number than in recent years for early June. Black Terns in early June at Beaver Island SP and two at Watts Flats WMA were likely late migrants, as the only remaining breeding area in the Region is at Iroquois NWR and adjacent WMAs. Four **Forster's Terns** on 1 June were unusual for number and date, while singles on 15 June and 4 July are consistent with increasing number of early summer reports in recent years.

Reports of warblers and other songbird migrants picked up considerably around 23 August, with the highlight being a **Golden-winged Warbler** found by Richard Salembier at Amherst SP.

Some other notable reports of uncommon species included two documented reports of Fish Crow, representing the first summer records for the Region. Scott Kruitbosch distinguished a Fish Crow among American Crows near Jamestown Airport and Brian Morse recorded some audio and video of a calling bird in Niagara Falls. Both reports were in August and follow increasing reports in winter and early spring in the Region as well as increases documented over the last year around Lake Erie. A group of 12 **Red Crossbills** was found at Allegany SP in early June during the Nature Pilgrimage, while Brian Morse documented a northbound migrant calling while flying over the State University

of New York at Buffalo campus in Amherst on the relatively late date of 18 June. Pine Siskins were reported from three locations in June.

CONTRIBUTORS

Tim Baird, Sue Barth (SBa), Doug Beattie, Jim Berry, Steve Brenner (SBr), Seaghan Coleman, Willie D'Anna, Joe DiCesare, Kurt Fox, Joanne Goetz, Andy Guthrie, Rich Guthrie, Doug Happ, Carol Hardenburg, Joe Hauser, Paul Hess, Linda Holmes, Alec Humann, Tom Kerr, Scott Kruitbosch, Greg Lawrence, Jerry Lazarczyk, Tim Lenz, Joe Mitchell, Mike Morgante, Celeste Morien, Brian Morse, Terry Mosher, Jim Pawlicki, Ralph Peterson, Betsy Potter, William Price, Richard Salembier, Debbie Sharon, Tom Simmons, Stephen Sliwinski, Kirk Vanstrom, Gale VerHague, William Watson, Peter Yoerg, Nick Ziemba.

ABBREVIATIONS

AISP – Allegany SP, CATT; AmSP – Amherst SP, ERIE; BeSP – Beaver I SP, ERIE; BMAC – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; BufH – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; BuSP – Buckhorn Island SP, ERIE; BWWTP – Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant, GENE; CSWMA – Conewango Swamp WMA, CATT; DH – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; FLC – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; FNSP – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; INWR – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; LBSP – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; MI – Motor I, NR, ERIE; NF – Niagara Falls, NIAG; NFSP – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; NR – Niagara R; OOWMA – Oak Orchard WMA, ORLE/GENE; PB – Point Breeze, ORLE; PG – Point Gratiot, CHAU; SPNS – Sinking Ponds Nature Sanctuary, ERIE; TBNP – Times Beach NP, ERIE; Tiff NP – Tiff Nature Preserve, Buffalo, ERIE; TWMA – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; WFWMA – Watts Flats WMA, CHAU; WoBSP – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; WTSP – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

WHISTLING- DUCKS - VULTURES

Mute Swan: Lewiston NR 20 Jun; 3 DH 22 Jul; only reports away from L Ontario.

Trumpeter Swan: BWWTP 18 Jun (KF); OOWMA 18-24 Aug (WD, CM), frequent location.

TUNDRA SWAN: CSWMA 4, 7 Jul (TL); BWWTP 4, 14, 21 Jul (KF!, WD!); unusual to have summer reports, let alone two.

Gadwall: 2, 2 INWR 8, 17 Jun; 8, 10 BWWTP 8, 28 Jun; NFSP 2 Jul; 24, 26 BWWTP 21, 30 Jul (KF), good numbers for dates.

Am. Wigeon: 1, 1 INWR 14 Jun, 14 Jul; max 4, 5 BWWTP 13 Jul, 4 Aug.

Blue-winged Teal: arr 13 INWR 12 Aug; 11 OOWMA 14 Aug.

N. Shoveler: 2, 3 INWR 7, 17 Jun; 2 BWWTP 4, 21 Jul; OOWMA 24 Aug; max 11 BWWTP 26 Aug.

N. Pintail: 1, 1 INWR 7 Jun, 13 Aug; 3 Lewiston Res NIAG 31 Aug; only reports.

Green-winged Teal: BWWTP 8 Jun; 6, 11 INWR 27 Jun, 24 Jul; 2 Wilson NIAG; max 12 OOWMA 24 Aug.

Canvasback: AISP 1 Jun (TB, CM, mob), late, unusual location.

Redhead: TBNP 7, 29 Aug (JH, SBr), only report.

Ring-necked Duck: Tiff NP 2 Jun thru (mob), present all summer; 2, 1 INWR 7, 14 Jun; Bethany GENE 9, 30 Jun, 1 Jul.

Lesser Scaup: 2, 1, 1 BWWTP 1 Jun, 11, 21 Jul, only report.

White-winged Scoter: arr 3 Wilson NIAG 24 Aug (WD), only report.

Bufflehead: Barcelona Harbor CHAU 14 Jun (CH); Grand INR 4 Jul (JL); unusual in summer.

Ruddy Duck: Tift NP 2 Jun; 12, 11, 6 BWWT 30 Jun, 22 Jul, 30 Aug; regular in summer at this location.

Com. Loon: BWWT 4 Aug (AH); Wilson NIAG 9, 10 Aug (WD); S. Dayton CATT 13 – 19 Aug (GV); only reports.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 31 TWMA 7 Aug; 8 BuSP 27 Aug.

Horned Grebe: BWWT 1 Jun – 14 Jul (KF, mob), unusual for date.

Red-necked Grebe: 7, 3, 2 Wilson NIAG 3, 4, 15 Aug (WD!), seems to be increasing in late summer, and/or function of increased lake watching.

EARED GREBE (R1): BWWT 18 Jun – 22 Jul (KF, mob), earlier than usual at this regular location.

AM. WHITE PELICAN (R1): INWR 13-15 Jul (WW!, mob), first July record.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 793 BuSP 7 Aug.

Am. Bittern: TWMA 12 Jun; 2 INWR; 2 OOWMA 2 Jul; BMAC 23 Aug, only report away from INWR and vicinity.

Least Bittern: INWR 27, 30 Jun; 3, 3 Tift NP 7 Jul, 3 Aug (SC), successful breeder at this location in recent years; TWMA 9 Jul.

Great Blue Heron: max 79 MI 11 Jul.

Great Egret: max 172, 183 OOWMA 18, 28 Aug (CM, WW), coming to roost.

CATTLE EGRET (R1): Mayville CHAU 30 Aug (GV, photo), rare, 1st summer record since 2003.

Black Vulture: 2, 3, 2 Lewiston NIAG 21 Jun, 4 Jul, 27 Aug (WW, WP), continues to show year round affinity for this location.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: continued increase as breeder.

Bald Eagle: well reported from nesting areas and elsewhere; max 10 INWR 6 Jun (CM), imm at Cayuga Pool.

N. Goshawk: juv AISP 11 Aug (TB!), only report.

Broad-winged Hawk: WTSP 18 Aug (WD), fall migrants rarely reported.

Virginia Rail: reported from four loc.

Sora: 1, 2 BWWT 4 Jul, 28 Aug, only reports away from INWR and vicinity.

Am. Coot: 4 INWR 21 Jun; 2 BWWT 28 Jun; 1 + yg BuSP 25 Jul, regular breeding loc; 1, 1 DH 4, 20 Aug.

C. Gallinule: max 11 INWR 20 Jun; 2 yg Tift NP 28 Aug.

Sandhill Crane: 2 WFWMA 3, 9 Jun (JB), previous reports in summer from this loc; 2 INWR 12, 14 Jun (DS, CM); 2 OOWMA 24 Jun, 1st confirmed breeding in Reg, *intro*; max 6 OOWMA 28 Aug (WW).

Black-bellied Plover: arr 1, 1 INWR 28, 31 Jul; BuH 31 Jul; max 4 INWR 21 Aug.

Am. Golden-Plover: arr 3 INWR 19 Aug; max 5 Lewiston Res NIAG 31 Aug (BP, WD); only reports.

Semipalmated Plover: arr 2 INWR 14 Jul; max 21 INWR 13 Aug.

Am. Avocet: 3, 2, 3, 1, 3 DH 9, 11, 17, 26 Jul, 7 Aug (GV, AG, TM, JG, mob), photos revealed these were not all the same birds; 3 Silver Creek CHAU 17 Jul (JD); 3 WoBSP 18 Jul, likely same birds seen at Silver Creek and DH earlier.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr 2 INWR 4 Jul; max 13 OOWMA 14 Aug.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr INWR 4 Jul.

Willet: Sheridan CHAU 14 Jul (PY), mouth of Cattaraugus Creek; 2 BuH 31 Jul (JP); only reports.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr BWWT 9 Jul; max 52 INWR 25 Jul; 30 OOWMA 24 Aug.

Upland Sandpiper: 3 Sheldon WYOM 1 Jun (TK); 4 Tillman Rd WMA ERIE 29 Jun, regular loc.

MARbled GODWIT: 3 DH 14 Jul (PY, ph, NZ), first summer record since 1998.

Ruddy Turnstone: arr 2 PB 27 Jul; BWWT, Olcott NIAG, INWR 28 Jul; DH 29 Jul; 3 BuH 31 Jul.

Sanderling: arr 1, 5, 7 DH 26, 29, 30 Jul; 2 PB 27 Jul; 2 BuH 31 Jul.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr 7 INWR 13 Jul; max 75 INWR 14 Aug (JM).

Least Sandpiper: arr 2 INWR 4 Jul; max 100, 130 INWR 14, 19 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: arr 1, 1 TWMA 7, 18 Aug; INWR 14 Aug; only reports.

Baird's Sandpiper: arr 1, 1 INWR 31 Jul, 21 Aug; TWMA 18 Aug; 2 BWWT 26-29; only reports.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 3 INWR 17 Jul; max 45, 30 INWR 12, 23 Aug.

Dunlin: last INWR 6 Jun (CM).

Stilt Sandpiper: arr 1, 2 INWR 13, 15 Jul; max 6 INWR 21 Aug (CM).

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 3, 6, 6 INWR 14, 15 Jul, 21 Aug, Buffalo NR 23 Aug; 3 OOWMA 24 Aug; BWWT 31 Aug.

Wilson's Snipe: BMAC 9, 20 Jun; 6 INWR 25 Jul; max 8 TWMA 18 Aug.

Red-necked Phalarope: arr 3, 3, 2 BWWT 27, 28, 29 Aug (CM, DB, PY).

Bonaparte's Gull: 206 FNSP 20 Jun (WW), consistent with Jun reports in recent years; 2 DH 30 Jun; 42 Lewiston NR 22 Jul; 73 Wilson NIAG 4 Aug; INWR 20-24 Aug.

Little Gull: 3, 2, 2 FNSP 15, 18, 20 Jun (AG, RG, WW), continued reports at this location in recent early summers.

LAUGHING GUL (R1)L: Lewiston Res NIAG 24 Aug (JP!, WW!), rare.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1, 1 Wilson NIAG 15 Jun, 28 Jul (AG, WD!); 1, 1, 2 DH 30 Jun, 7, 11 Jul (TL, AG); 2 NFSP 1 Aug; max 4, 8 Lewiston Res NIAG 24, 31 Aug (WW, WD, BP).

Great Black-backed Gull: 13 imm BufH 9 Jun (MM), good number for date.

Caspian Tern: INWR 23 Jun; 17, 15 INWR 10, 18 Aug (LH, RS), good inland counts; common on Great Lakes.

Black Tern: BeSP 1 Jun (DS); 2 WFWMA 3 Jun (JB); 1, 1 BWWT 8, 19 Jun; 15 INWR 20 Jul; max 25 TWMA 22 Jul (GL).

Com. Tern: 4 BWWT 4 Jul; max 800 BufH 30 Jul (WW).

Forster's Tern: 4 BWWT 1 Jun (KF), good number; Wilson NIAG 15 Jun (AG); BWWT 4 Jul (SBa, DH, CM); only reports.

POMARINE JAEGER: L Erie off Buffalo ERIE 11 Jul (SS! ph), close range photos on water; 1st July & 2nd summer record for Reg.

PARASITIC JAEGER: Carlton Hill MUA WYOM 20 Jul (JP! ph), flying west following night of rough weather, 1st inland record for Reg; BufH 30 Jul (JP!); 2nd & 3rd records for July.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

Com. Nighthawk: 2 WFWMA 3 Jun (JB); Fredonia CHAU 8 Jun (JB); 4, 2, 4 Jamestown CHAU 8 Jun, 5 Jul, 14 Aug (TL, JB, SK), only loc with probable breeding; Eden ERIE 16 Jun (MM), late migrant?; arr 3 Williamsville ERIE 16 Aug; max 12 Lancaster ERIE 17 Aug (BM), five other Aug reports.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Middlebury WYOM 19-25 Jun (DB); OOWMA 14 Jul; 1, 4 PG 14 Jul, 11 Aug; only reports.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: INWR 12 Jun; TWMA 23 Jun; loc at northern edge of local breeding distribution.

Merlin: 1, 2 AISP 1 Jun, 6 Jul (WD, BM); 2 + 4 yg Buffalo ERIE 9 Jul (PY); 2 + 2 yg + n Lakewood CHAU (TS) thru 25 Jul; arr Salamanca CATT 5 Aug; Jamestown CHAU

10 Aug; DH 11 Aug; INWR 12 Aug; 20 S. Dayton CATT 20 Aug.

Peregrine Falcon: Arkwright CHAU 25 Jun (GV), unusual location for date; WoBSP 25 Jul; INWR 4, 16 Aug; OOWMA 15 Aug.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr Jamestown Airport CHAU 24 Aug (TL); Aurora ERIE 25 Aug (LH); only reports.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr Williamsville ERIE 18 Aug; 1, 1 AmSP 23, 29 Aug; Wilson NIAG 24 Aug; Alden ERIE 29 Aug.

Acadian Flycatcher: max 7 AISP 1-6 Jul.

Least Flycatcher: arr AmSP 23 Aug.

E. Kingbird: max 15 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 11 Aug; 14 Jamestown Airport CHAU 12 Aug.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr AmSP 30 Aug.

FISH CROW (R1): Jamestown Airport CHAU 16 Aug (SK); NF 24 Aug (BM, video); 1st summer rep for Reg.

Purple Martin: 70 BWWT 8 Jun; 228 INWR 26 Jun (CM), 92 nests and 288 fledged in area this summer, *intro.*; 125 Bethany GENE 23 Jun (DB); max 3500, 2000 BuSP 27, 30 Aug (AH, SBr), roost

Tree Swallow: 275 BWWT 4 Aug; max 300 TWMA 7 Aug.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 100 BWWT 28 Jul.

Bank Swallow: 285 BWWT 4 Aug; max 920 N Tonawanda NIAG 8 Aug.

Cliff Swallow: max 80 Tonawanda I NIAG 12 Jun.

Barn Swallow: 140, max 240 BWWT 8 Jun, 4 Aug; 230 BuSP 27 Aug.

Sedge Wren: INWR 2, 3 Jul (CM, JM); 2 Alfred ALLE 30 Jun (RP); only reports.

Swainson's Thrush: 2 AISP 1-6 Jul; arr Aurora ERIE 25 Aug.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Louisiana Waterthrush: reported from four loc.

N. Waterthrush: arr AmSP 27 Aug.

Golden-winged Warbler: no breeding reports; AmSP 30 Aug (RS), fall migrants rare.

Blue-winged Warbler: 2 Alfred ALLE 17 Aug, banded.

"Brewster's" Warbler: Tonawanda Ind Res GENE 14 Jun, only report.

"Lawrence's" Warbler: 1, 2 BMAC 1, 20 Jun (TK), continued from spring.

Black-and-white Warbler: Jamestown CHAU 9 Jun; Ward ALLE 9 Jun; Allegheny Ind Res CATT 23 Jun; Alfred ALLE 12 Jul; arr AmSP 26 Aug.

Prothonotary Warbler: 2, 4, 4 TWMA 4, 9, 19 Jun (BP, WD, PY, PH), only regular recent breeding loc; last 21 Jul.

Tennessee Warbler: arr AmSP 26 Aug.

Nashville Warbler: Brocton CHAU 8 Jun; Allenberg Bog CATT 14 Jun; arr Jamestown CHAU 16 Aug.

Hooded Warbler: arr AmSP 23 Aug.

Am. Redstart: arr NF 23 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: Elba GENE 8, 11 Jun; 2 Allegheny Ind Res CATT 23 Jun; only reports away from INWR.

N. Parula: 3 AISP 1 Jun, 1-6 Jul (CM, PH); 2 Allegheny Ind Res CATT 23 Jun (PY); traditional breeding locations.

Magnolia Warbler: arr Tiffi NP 24 Aug.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 2 AmSP, Wilson NIAG 23 Aug.

Blackburnian Warbler: arr AmSP, Wilson NIAG 23 Aug.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr 4 AmSP 23 Aug.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr Wilson NIAG 23 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr FLC 24 Aug.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr 4 NFSP, FNSP 25 Aug.

Yellow-throated Warbler: AISP 1 Jun, 1-6 Jul (WD, PH), regular at this loc.

Prairie Warbler: max 9 Yorkshire CATT 7 Jun; 5 Rock City SF CATT 28 Jun (TL); 7 Rushford CATT 7 Jul.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr AmSP 23 Aug.

Canada Warbler: max 6 WFWMA 3 Jun; 3 Allenberg Bog CATT 14 Jun.

Wilson's Warbler: arr AmSP 23 Aug.

Yellow-breasted Chat: Carlton Hill MUA WYOM 1-16 Jun (DB, mob), continued from late May.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Clay-colored Sparrow: 2, 3, 2 Olcott NIAG 11 Jun, 5, 8 Jul (BP, CM); Ashford CATT 12 Jul (RS); only reports.

Vesper Sparrow: max 4, 4 Ashford CATT 30 Jun, 12 Jul; Newfane NIAG 8 Jul; Akron ERIE 31 Jul (RS).

Grasshopper Sparrow: reported from 12 loc; good showing.

HENSLOW'S SPARROW (R1): 1-7 Ellicott CHAU 8 Jun – 21 Aug (KV, mob); adjacent to Jamestown Airport; first Reg report since 2006.

White-throated Sparrow: Olcott NIAG 22 Jul (BM), unusual loc for date.

Dark-eyed Junco: E Amherst ERIE 1-30 Jun (MM); northern limit of breeding distribution.

Bobolink: max 75 Shelby ORLE 17 Jun; max 75 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 10 Aug.

Orchard Oriole: AISP 3 Jun; SPNS 5 Jun (LH); Olcott NIAG 11 Jun; 2 Middlebury WYOM 21 Jun; Newfane NIAG 28 Jun; Wilson NIAG 25 Jul; continued increase.

Red Crossbill: 12 AISP 2 Jun (WD, CM); Amherst ERIE 18 Jun (BM!), flyover; only reports.

Pine Siskin: 3 Forestville CHAU 2 Jun; 1-3 Wilson NIAG 5-27 Jun; 2 Jamestown CHAU 14 Jun; only reports.



REGION 2—GENESEE

Greg Lawrence

glawrence21@yahoo.com

The 2013 summer season was generally pleasant with around average temperatures. Rainfall was plentiful early in the season but became scarcer in July and August, with a seasonal precipitation total that was 3.24" higher than the average. Temperatures were just 0.8° above average at 69.6° F. June's rainfall total was 6.27", 2.93" above average, and included two days with over 1.00" and four with over 0.50". The average temperature was 66.4°, only 0.2° above average. July's average temperature was 73.0°, 2.2° above normal, and included five days above 90°. Precipitation in July was 1.08" above average at 4.4". August temperatures were exactly on average at 69.3°. Precipitation level was 0.77" below average at 2.70".

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The “summer” season encompasses three different “seasons” for birds, including the end of spring migration in June, the breeding season, and the beginning of fall migration, which starts in mid June for some species. Thus, it is possible to separate the season into these three parts and discuss each separately.

While migration for many species, and birders alike, ends in late May, there is still quite a bit of movement in the first half of June. Waterfowl movement was only a trickle, but included some late records of Red-breasted Merganser, Common Loon, and Horned Grebe. An **American White Pelican** on 1 June represents a late wandering bird of a species that has increased in recent years. Though no formal hawkwatch at Braddock Bay was conducted after 1 June, the count on that date was significant; 662 birds were recorded, including: 364 Broad-winged Hawks, 241 Turkey Vultures, and 35 Bald Eagles.

The end of shorebird migration was not well documented and was represented by just three species, all recorded as 1-2 individuals in the first two days of June. These included Greater Yellowlegs, Whimbrel, and a **Willet** found by Andy Guthrie and seen also by Brian Morse. Common Nighthawks were again reported in small numbers, with a max of 24 in Greece and the last record being from Honeoye Lake on 15 June. The late spring passerine movement included a late report of a banded Philadelphia Vireo on 4 June. Typical late migrants included Gray-cheeked and Swainson’s Thrush, both banded and observed in the first week and a half of June. Cedar Waxwings were still recorded passing in large numbers in early June, with a notable high count of 953 from Hamlin Beach on 2 June. The tail end of warbler migration was also observed, with reports of Tennessee, Blackburnian, Blackpoll, Canada, and Wilson’s Warblers. None of these species were observed to dates past the first week in June. Single reports of lingering White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows were interesting in early June but none were reported any later. Lastly, the remnants of a good winter finch season were still observed into June, as there were three reports of Red Crossbill during the month, most notably two birds on 3 July. White-winged Crossbill, Pine Siskin, and Evening Grosbeak were all reported as well during June.

The second segment of the “summer” season includes the main breeding season for birds. Trumpeter Swans continue to breed in the Region, but in smaller numbers confined to the Northern Montezuma Wetlands WMA (NMWMA) in Wayne County. However, the species was absent from the historical Atlantic Avenue site on the other side of the county for the second year in a row. Waterfowl showed fairly poorly with small numbers of American Black Duck, Blue-winged Teal, and Green-winged Teal. Ruddy Ducks were reported at multiple sites near Braddock Bay as well as in NMWMA. Pied-billed Grebes were reported as usual along with both Least and American Bitterns. Great Egrets were again reported from many sites and in increasingly higher numbers, but no evidence of a breeding colony was reported. Black-crowned Night-Herons were reported as well from NMWMA in usual numbers.

In terms of raptors, Red-shouldered Hawks were reported from usual sites. A Northern Goshawk report from Letchworth SP was notable, as reports of this

species have become scarcer. Black Vulture was reported on three occasions, which continues the trend of increasing numbers of this species in the Region. Common Gallinule and American Coot were reported from the usual sites at High Acres Nature Area and NMWMA, but coot reports from near Braddock Bay were interesting. Sandhill Cranes were once again reported from NMWMA, and a report from Honeoye WMA in Ontario County supports an increasing trend of reports from the area.

Caspian Terns were observed at many sites along the lakeshore including a maximum of 40 from Irondequoit Bay. Common Terns were also reported along the lakeshore in small numbers including a maximum of eight from Ontario Beach Park. Black Terns were reported again in low numbers from NMWMA, but a report from the Braddock Bay area keeps hopes alive that the species could return and breed in the area. Though reports were few, Eurasian Collared-Doves continue in Hamlin in Monroe County. No breeding nightjars were reported in the Region. Merlins were reported nesting in Fairport, which continues the increasing trend of breeding in the area. The Monk Parakeets in Greece continue, but observers noted a size decrease in the nest. Red-headed Woodpeckers also continue but in small numbers, with the most visible centering around a maximum of eight at Hamlin Beach SP.

Fish Crows were again reported in good numbers in the Charlotte area of northern Rochester, but no reports confirmed breeding. It was a particularly good year for Sedge Wrens, with a maximum of seven observed at Burger Park near Braddock Bay. This is a good count for a species that is hard to pin down year to year at breeding sites. Golden-winged Warbler was only reported from a site in North Wolcott in Wayne County, and Prothonotary Warblers continued in the NMWMA at the Armitage Road site shared with Region 3. Hooded Warblers were reported in decent numbers from many locations. Clay-colored Sparrows were reported from the usual locations at Nations Road in Avon and Cook Road in Hamlin. Grasshopper Sparrows continue to show fairly well, but Henslow's Sparrows were again unreported in the Region.

Lastly, the beginning of fall migration is the last segment of the summer season. Red-breasted Mergansers, Common Loons, and Red-necked Grebe were all observed passing along the lake by the first week in August. A **Northern Gannet** seen passing on 9 August by Andy Guthrie was notable as the first summer record for the Region. Just five days later, Andy Guthrie spotted and photographed a **Neotropic Cormorant** passing by Hamlin Beach with a flock of Double-crested Cormorants, a New York State first record pending approval by NYSARC. An **American White Pelican** was spotted twice in August at NMWMA, which could be one of two birds seen nearby in Region 3 later and continuing into fall.

By the end of July, 15 shorebird species were reported. Notable sightings included Red Knot and Whimbrel from Hamlin Beach SP. Upland Sandpipers were also reported from the Geneseo airfield as well as two reports from Hamlin. August brought many reports of American Golden-Plover, with a high of 67 from Elba in Genesee County. There were also single reports of both Wilson's and Red-necked Phalarope.

Some passerine movement was noted already in late July, with a Swainson's Thrush in Wolcott in Wayne County and a Tennessee Warbler banded at the Braddock Bay Bird Observatory. August also brought a **Western Kingbird** in Hamlin and two reports of Olive-sided Flycatcher, which made it an interesting month for flycatchers. Two reports of Golden-crowned Kinglet from Mendon Ponds Park in August were interesting, though the species breeds in neighboring counties. August also brought migrant warblers, most of which were first reported at typical arrival dates.

For the season, 216 species and one hybrid were reported, with numbers for each month on the 10-year average for June and 18 and 11 above average for July and August, respectively.

CONTRIBUTORS

Jim Adams, Janet Akin, BBBO (Betsy Brooks, *et al*), Ted Barnett, Jessie Barry, Jim & Liz Barry, Doug & Sharon Beattie, Linda Clark-Benedict & Steve Benedict, Barry Bermudez, Brenda Best, John Boettcher, Lynn Braband, Joe Brin, Bruce & Mary Ann Cady, Carl Carbone, Doug Cameron, Brad Carlson, Kelly Close, Andrew Consler, Kathleen Dalton, Doug Daniels, Gregg Dashnau, Crystal Doyle, Joe Fell, Stephen Fielding, Daena Ford, Tony Ford, Drew Fowler, Kenny Frisch, Andy Garland, Sheryl Gracewski, Jay Greenberg, Kevin Griffith & Colleen Dox-Griffith, Lucretia Grosshans, William Gruenbaum, Eric Gulson, Judy Gurley, Andrew Guthrie, Robert Haggett, Helen & Chris Haller, Greg Hartenstein, Kim Hartquist, Nathan Hatch, Carolyn Jacobs, Tom Kerr, Jim Kimball, Kathy Kirsch, J. Gary Kohlenberg, Chris Lajewski, Edith Lank, Leona Lauster, Greg Lawrence, Jerry Lazarczyk, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Peggy Mabb, Bill Maier, Cindy Marino, David Marsh, Pat Martin, Jay McGowan, Kevin McGowan, Glenn Miller, Randi Minetor, Joe Mitchell, Montezuma Audubon Center, Frank Morelock, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke Morse, Allen Nash, Ann Nash, Dave Nicosia, Dave Nutter, Bob Oswald, Andrea Patterson, Teresa Pegan, Norma Platt, Jay Powell, Mike Powers, David Prill, Carolyn Ragan, RBA Field Trips, Thomas Riley, Michelle Rosenbaum, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Jennifer Rycenga, Livia Santana, Michael Scheibel, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sherony, Joe Slattery, Tom & Pat Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Chris Stanger, Kimberly Sucy, Scott Sutcliffe, Jim Tarolli, Steve Taylor, David Tetlow, Michael & Joann Tetlow, Luke Tiller, Don & Donna Traver, Lee Ann van Leer, Matthew Voelker, Brad Walker, Mike Wasilco, Dan Watkins, Bridget Watts, Drew Weber, Justine Weber, David Wheeler, Brenda Williamson, Chris Wood, Dan Young.

ABBREVIATIONS

B – after a number of individuals indicates banded; BB – Braddock Bay, MONR; CH – Charlotte, Ontario Beach, MONR; CLI – Conesus Lake Inlet, including Wildlife Management Area marshes, LIVI; Cuy – Cuylerville area, LIVI; G – Greece, MONR; H – T of Hamlin, MONR; HB – Hamlin Beach SP, 310

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MONR; HANA – High Acres Nature Area, T Perinton, MONR; IB – Irondequoit Bay; M – Manitou, MONR; MAC – Montezuma Audubon Center, T Savannah, WAYN; NMWMA – Northern Montezuma Wetlands Wildlife Management Area, WAYN; OCP – Oatka Creek Park, MONR; S- Savannah, WAYN; SPt – Sodus Point, WAYN.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Trumpeter Swan: max 8 NMWMA thru.
Wood Duck: max 180 NMWMA 2 Aug (JM).
Am. Black Duck: max 18 NMWMA, low.
Blue-winged Teal: max 7 NMWMA 30 Jul Aug, low.
N. Shoveler: arr NMWMA 30 Aug (DTe).
N. Pintail: NMWMA 17 Jul; arr 6 NMWMA 30 Aug (DTe), early.
Green-winged Teal: HANA 5 Jun; max 15 NMWMA 30 Jul.
Com. Merganser: 8 HB 5 Jul (AGu).
Red-breasted Merganser: last HB 8 Jun (TF); arr HB 17 Aug (DTe).
Ruddy Duck: 1-2 G 16, 21 Jun (GL), 1 NMWMA 19 Jun (NH); 1 Port Bay 3 Jul (GL), summering.
Red-throated Loon: arr 1 HB 12 Aug (AGu), early.
Com. Loon: 19 HB 1 Jun, getting late for so many.
Horned Grebe: last HB 2 Jun (BriM).
Red-necked Grebe: arr 3 HB 2 Aug (AGu, RS), early.
NORTHERN GANNET: 1 HB 9 Aug (AGu), 1st Reg. summer record
Double-crested Cormorant: max 300 CH 19 Aug (BriM), low.
NEOTROPIC CORMORANT: 1 HB 14 Aug (AGu, ph), 1st State record pending NYSARC evaluation, *intro*.
AM. WHITE PELICAN: HB 1 Jun (AGu, ph).
Great Egret: max 112 NMWMA 9 Aug, breeding nearby?; 5 Brockport 25 Jun (JPo).
LITTLE BLUE HERON (R2): 1 imm NMWMA 21-23 Jul (JTa, DWe, DWh).
BLACK VULTURE (R2): 1 G 14 Jun (DTe), 1 Perinton 7 Jul (DSh), 1 G 9 Jul (DTe).

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Osprey: nest + yg W of Avon on Genesee River thru; sev nests in WAYN.
N. Goshawk: 1 Letchworth SP 12 Jun (DSh).
Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 WAYN 22 Jul (LC-B&SB); 1 Letchworth SP 9-10 Aug (KH).
Bald Eagle: max 35 BB 1 Jun (LT, *et al*).
Broad-winged Hawk: max 364 BB 1 Jun (LT, *et al*).

Com. Gallinule: max 142 NMWMA 30 Aug (DTe).
Am. Coot: 1 BB 21 Jun (GL), scarce now along lakeshore.
Sandhill Crane: 1-4 NMWMA (mob); 1 T Richmond ONTA 15 Jul (KK).
Black-bellied Plover: arr 2 HB 29 Jul (AGu, BriM), max 23 H 18 Aug (AGu).
Am. Golden-Plover: max 67 Elba 24 Aug (GL).
Semipalmated Plover: arr 28 Jul HB, max 24 H 11 Aug (AGu).
Solitary Sandpiper: arr 13 Jul NMWMA (TP).
Greater Yellowlegs: last HB 1 Jun; arr 2 NMWMA 25 Jul (JM).
“Western” Willet: 1 HB 2 Jun (AGu, BriM), 1 CH 18 Aug (TF).
Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 2 NMWMA 13 Jul.
Upland Sandpiper: arr Genesee 30 Jul (JK).
Whimbrel: last 1 CH 2 Jun (JeB); 1 HB 24 Jul (AGu); 3 CH 1 Aug (TF).
Ruddy Turnstone: arr 2 CH 23 Jul.
Red Knot: arr 1 HB 28 Jul (AGu).
Sanderling: arr 2 CH 23 Jul (GL).
Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr 2 CH 17 Jul.
Least Sandpiper: arr 2 HB 14 Jul.
White-rumped Sandpiper: arr Groveland flats 16 Aug (KC).
Pectoral Sandpiper: arr HB 29 Jul.
Dunlin: arr H 20 Aug.
Stilt Sandpiper: arr Perinton 28 Aug.
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr Durand Eastman Park 27 Jul.
Wilson’s Phalarope: arr. 1 Perinton 16 Aug (JPo), only report.
Red-necked Phalarope: arr 1 HB 5 Aug (AGu, BriM).
Bonaparte’s Gull: max 118 CH 19 Aug (BriM), low.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1-3 HB 1-2 Jun (AGu, BriM); 1 CH 4 Aug (KF).
Caspian Tern: max 40 IB 28 Jul (RS), low.
Black Tern: 1 G 3 Jun, scarce now along lakeshore; max 25 NMWMA 1 Aug.
Com. Tern: max 11 CH 16 Jun (DTe).
Forster’s Tern: arr HB 10 Aug (BriM, AGu).

PIGEONS – PARROTS

Eurasian Collared-Dove: max 2 H thru, historical loc.

Com. Nighthawk: max 24 G 1 Jun; last Honeoye Lake 15 Jun; arr H 30 Aug.

Red-headed Woodpecker: max 8 HB 29 Jul (AGu).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 39 Harriet Hollister Spencer SRA 19 Jun (R&SS), illustration of numbers breeding in Reg if observers count.

Merlin: nest w/yg Fairport thru (BMA); 1 NMWMA 30 Jul (W&MR).

Peregrine Falcon: 2 ad, 2 yg Roch (falconcam) thru.

FALCONS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 T Huron WAYN 1 Aug (DTe); 1 Mendon Ponds 28 Aug (J&AH).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max B 13 M 2 Jun (BBBO); last 6B M 5 Jun; arr 1B M 18 Aug.

WESTERN KINGBIRD: 1 H 31 Aug (AGu).

Philadelphia Vireo: last BB 4 Jun (BBBO), arr Corbett's Glen 24 Aug (MS).

Fish Crow: max 8 CH thru, nesting???

Com. Raven: 2 ad, 2 yg Mendon Ponds 21 Jun (R&SS).

Purple Martin: max 60 S (MAC) 18 Aug, low.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Webster 29 Aug.

Sedge Wren: max 7 G (Hogan Pt) 8 Jul (GL), good count.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: last HANA 9 Jun (DSh).

Swainson's Thrush: last H 8 Jun; 1 Wolcott 5 Jul (W&MR).

Gray Catbird: total B 114 M Aug, high.

Cedar Waxwing: max 953 HB 2 Jun (AGu).

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Golden-winged Warbler: 1 N Wolcott WAYN Jun -5 Jul (W&MR).

Prothonotary Warbler: 1-2 S (Armitage Rd) Jun (mob), nesting.

Tennessee Warbler: arr 1B M 29 Jul, early.

Mourning Warbler: arr 2B M 25 Aug.

Com. Yellowthroat: total B 50 M 1-31 Aug.

Am. Redstart: total B 58 M 1-31 Aug.

Cape May Warbler: 1B M 26 Jul (BBBO), Reg record early, recaptured 27 Jul; 1B M 14 Aug, also early.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 1 BB 24 Aug.

Blackpoll Warbler: last 1 Durand Eastman Park 8 Jun (KH).

Canada Warbler: arr OCP 16 Aug (SB, DH), early.

Wilson's Warbler: last 1B M 5 Jun; arr 1 Mendon Ponds 28 Aug (J&AH).

TOWHEES – WEAVERS

Clay-colored Sparrow: 1 Nations Rd 8 Jul (DD); 2-4 Hamlin (Cook Rd) thru (sev); both known breeding sites.

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 14 Nations Rd 19 Jun (JK), good count.

Henslow's Sparrow: no reports.

White-throated Sparrow: last 1 Huckleberry Swamp WAYN 9 Jun (SS).

White-crowned Sparrow: last 1G 5 Jun (KG), late.

Bobolink: max 197 G (Hogan Pt) 25 Jul (CW), good count.

White-winged Crossbill: last 2 HB 1 Jun (AGu).

Red Crossbill: 1 BB 1 Jun (LT, *et al*); 8 HB 1 Jun (AGu, BriM); 2 HB 26 Jun (DTe); 2 Bergen Swamp 3 Jul (D&JW).

Pine Siskin: last 16 Jun HB (AGu) & Webster (PeM).

Evening Grosbeak: 1 Honeoye Lake 22 Jun (RS).



REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

Teresa Pegan and Hope Batcheller

Cornell Lab of Ornithology

tmp49@cornell.edu and hjb58@cornell.edu

In the summer of 2013, Region 3 experienced slightly more rainfall and slightly colder temperatures than average. All counties in Region 3 had above average rainfall in June, July, and August, but the levels differed by less than 3% in

almost all cases. Temperatures in June were about 0.6° F lower than usual, but on some occasions in early and mid June temperatures dropped to 10° below average. July was slightly warmer than average, by 1.3°, but in August temperatures dipped below average again by 2.3°. Although this summer's weather did not overall differ very much from average levels, the cold snaps in June came during critical periods of the Tree Swallow breeding season, as observed by the long-running swallow project run by Dr. David Winkler at Cornell, and was one of the factors causing this breeding season to be one of the least successful ever observed in nearly 30 years for the experimental population. It seems likely that these cold snaps may have affected other birds' breeding attempts this year as well, especially those of aerial insectivores.

As usual, Montezuma's Knox-Marcellus Marsh turned up a number of rarities over the summer. A rather early eclipse male Eurasian Wigeon was found there by Jay McGowan on 23 July. He noted that it was only the second eBird record for New York in July. Another Eurasian Wigeon was found at Knox-Marcellus a month later on 30 August this time by David Nicosia and Melissa Penta.

Another notable waterfowl report from the summer was a new high count of Snow Geese, with four being seen both at Island Park on 7 June by Ken Burdick and at Emerson Park on 22 July by Ann Walter-Fromson.

Other birds from Knox-Marcellus include the American White Pelican first reported by Mickey Scilingo that was widely observed from July continuing into the fall, when it was joined by a second bird. It was seen fishing in the marsh on several occasions. Large numbers of Ardeids spent the summer at the marsh, including new high counts of 111 Great Egrets observed on 11 August and 55 Black-crowned Night-Herons on 18 August. A Glossy Ibis first reported in May by Larue St. Clair and Jackie Bakker was also seen on 1 June by Brent Bomkamp.

Knox-Marcellus is well known for its diversity of shorebirds, and this summer was no exception. Notable sightings include new high counts of Stilt Sandpipers in early August and American Golden-Plovers and Greater Yellowlegs later in the month; widely observed rarities like Jay McGowan's Marbled Godwit in early August, the Whimbrel reported by Jason Huck, and the 48 Hudsonian Godwits reported by Jay McGowan, Tim Lenz, and Andy Johnson later in the month; Buff-breasted Sandpipers, seen multiple times toward the end of August, and a Wilson's Phalarope that continued from July to the end of August. Three Red Knots were spotted at the Marsh in early June by Larue St. Clair, Jackie Bakker, and Chuck Gibson. A new high count of four Ruddy Turnstones was seen on 27 July by Jay McGowan.

Knox-Marcellus was also host to good numbers of Larids this summer, including new high counts of six Bonaparte's Gulls and 262 Caspian Terns in the first week of August. Other notable Larids include a Laughing Gull seen by Bill Ostrander at the Elmira Dam and two Forster's Terns seen a few times at Myer's Point on Cayuga Lake. An adult and a hatch year bird were found by Jay McGowan on 2 June, and later he also found a basic-plumaged bird at Stewart Park. Though not in the marsh itself, another unusual bird found by observers on

East Rd. (one of the main Knox-Marcellus viewing areas) was a Sedge Wren that was present 4-7 August, first reported by Jessie Barry and Chris Wood.

Myer's Point is also often a good place for unusual shorebirds and waterfowl, and this summer a heavily molting female-type Red-breasted Merganser was found there by Jay McGowan. The bird continued there for nearly the entire month of August. A new high count of seven Sanderlings was reported on 28 July. An especially interesting bird from the same day was a banded first Tompkins County record Red Knot found by Kevin McGowan and Lee Ann Van Leer. The bird had a green leg flag with the number 096 and had apparently been banded in the Delaware Bay. Some notable passerines from Myer's Point include a Dickcissel associating with a Bobolink flock and a late Orchard Oriole singing from Salt Point, both reported on 27 August by Chris Wood.

Though usually known for producing rare gulls in the winter, Cornell's compost piles off of Game Farm Rd. were notable this summer because of three Black Vultures found there by Jay McGowan on 28 August. One was seen flying over Cornell's Beebe Lake on the same day by Ben Barkley. The birds at the compost piles stayed through the end of August, and the species has continued to be reported sporadically in the area into the fall. An early Lesser Black-backed Gull was also seen at the compost piles several times at the end of July, first reported by Chris Wood.

Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve in Danby hosted a number of interesting birds this summer, including a possible immature Northern Goshawk on 10 June seen by Ken Rosenberg. The species has bred there in the past and was also observed near the preserve at Bald Hill Rd. on 13 June by Diane Morton, Ken Kemphues, and Gary Kohlenberg. The Bald Hill bird's agitated behavior suggested that it had a nest nearby. A goshawk was also seen at Finger Lakes National Forest on 5 July.

One of the most interesting birds from the season was a Clay-colored Sparrow that was seen consistently at Lindsay-Parsons between 16 June and 4 July, found by Dave Nutter. A different Clay-colored Sparrow first reported by Jay McGowan was also seen regularly for most of June at the Christmas tree farm on Lick St. near Summerhill State Forest. Although no nest or hybrid fledglings were ever confirmed, the Lindsay-Parsons bird seemed to be involved in a nesting attempt with a Field Sparrow. The bird was a male that sang almost constantly during the time it was present, making it easy for many people to find it. On 19 June Benjamin Freeman and Alexandra Class described seeing the bird carry a moth into a dense tangle of grass and then emerge without it, strongly suggesting that it was attending young. They did not search for a nest because they worried about accidentally trampling it in the dense grass. No one ever reported seeing more than one Clay-colored Sparrow in the area, but several people including Benjamin Freeman, Jay McGowan, and myself saw it associating with a Field Sparrow. On 29 June Brent Bomkamp described seeing a female Field Sparrow carrying food when the Clay-colored Sparrow flew in and landed next to her, also carrying food. The Clay-colored Sparrow then unsuccessfully attempted to copulate with the Field Sparrow. Clay-colored

Sparrows and Field Sparrows are known to occasionally produce hybrids in the Midwest.

Other breeding birds of interest from Lindsay-Parsons were the Worm-eating Warblers that tend to breed in the Thatcher's Pinnacles area of the preserve. People began looking for the birds there in early May, and by the end of May Dave Nutter had watched the birds nest-building. The species was seen and heard regularly throughout the summer from Lindsay-Parsons and the surrounding area. Jay McGowan saw five of them on 2 July, an adult pair, a different adult with a young fledgling, and a fourth lone adult.

Golden-winged Warblers were present in the Region a few times over the summer—Tom Schulenberg had one in his yard in Ithaca on 24 August and Kevin McGowan had one at Yellow Barn State Forest on the same day. However, light yellowish wash on the chest of the Yellow Barn bird led Kevin McGowan to conclude that it was a “Lawrence’s” Warbler type Golden-winged x Blue-winged hybrid.

Although never observed breeding, a Prothonotary Warbler was consistently present in the marshy area off of Armitage Rd. near Montezuma this summer. The bird was first found in early May by Gary Chapin and was seen until the end of July by those who managed to endure the clouds of mosquitos in the area. This location has been good for Prothonotary Warblers in the past. There were reports from both Regions 3 and 2, with birds seen both south and north of the road.

Near the Prothonotary but somewhat easier to see was the pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers that bred in a stand of dead trees near Mays Point Pool. Mark Miller spotted one on 2 June being mobbed by blackbirds. Although the birds were not seen for a while after that, by early July they were consistently reported and David Nutter observed the pair copulating on 11 July. The pair did nest in the area, and on 25 August at least one nestling could be seen poking its head out of the cavity. The birds showed a range of feeding behaviors over the summer, including flycatching and foraging on wild grapes and other berries, and they were also seen bringing grapes into the nest cavity, perhaps to feed their young. David and Debbie Suggs also had a single Red-headed Woodpecker at Fries Cove on Cayuga Lake for most of the summer. The bird would sometimes visit their suet feeder. This was the third summer it has been present, and it had apparently failed to find a mate all three years.

Other notable passerines seen this summer include a Red Crossbill in Geneva reported by James Norwalk on 16 June and new high counts of Acadian Flycatchers (four) from Fillmore Glen State Park on 4 July and Baltimore Orioles (30) from the Finger Lakes National Forest on 6 August. A total of 220 species was reported this season. eBird data were analyzed using Swan Swan Hummingbird, courtesy of David Wheeler.

CONTRIBUTORS

Jackie Bakker, Ben Barkley, Jessie Barry, Brent Bomkamp, Joseph Brin, Ken Burdick, Gary Chapin, Alexandra Class, Doug Daniels, Benjamin Freeman,

Chuck Gibson, Louise Gomez, Eric Gulson, Andy Guthrie, Jason Huck, Andy Johnson, Logan Kahle, Steve Kelling, Ken Kempfues, J Gary Kohlenberg, Tim Lenz, Jay McGowan, Kevin McGowan, Mark Miller, Ann Mitchell, Diane Morton, David Nicosia, James Norwalk, Dave Nutter, Bill Ostrander, Teresa Pegan, Melissa Penta, Larue St. Clair, Paul Rodewald, Ken Rosenberg, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Livia Santana, Tom Schulenberg, Mickey Sclingo, Antony Shrimpton, Eric Sibbald, David & Debbie Suggs, Jim Tarolli, Brad Walker, Ann Walter-Fromson, Benjamin Van Doren, Lee Ann van Leer, David Wheeler, Chris Wood, Cornell Lab Young Birders Event.

ABBREVIATIONS

Finger Lakes NF – Finger Lakes National Forest, SENE; Knox-Mar – Knox–Marcellus Marsh area, CAYU (includes Towpath and East Rds.); LPBP – Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve, TOMP; MyPt – Myers Point, TOMP; StP – Stewart Park, TOMP.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Snow Goose: max 4 Island Park CAYU 7 Jun (KB); 4 Emerson Park CAYU 22 Jul (AW-F).

EURASIAN WIGEON (R3): Knox-Mar 23 Jul (JM); Knox-Mar 30 Aug (DNI, MP).

Red-breasted Merganser: fem MyPt 2-29 Aug (JM), unusual in summer.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN (R3): Knox-Mar 21 Jul-21 Aug (MS, mob), continued into fall.

Great Egret: max 111 Knox-Mar 11 Aug.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 55 Knox-Mar 18 Aug.

GLOSSY IBIS (R3): Knox-Mar 1 Jun (BBo), continuing from May.

BLACK VULTURE (R3): 3 Compost Piles TOMP 28-31 Aug (JM, mob).

HAWKS - ALCIDS

N. Goshawk: ad Bald Hill Rd 13 Jun, probable nesting; Finger Lakes NF 5 July, scarce.

Am. Golden-Plover: max 28 Knox-Mar 30 Aug.

Greater Yellowlegs: max 500 Knox-Mar 18 Aug.

WHIMBREL: Knox-Mar 25-31 Aug (JH, mob).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (R3): 48 Knox-Mar 18 Aug (AJ, TL, JM, mob), apparent adults.

MARbled GODWIT: Knox-Mar 2-10 Aug (JM, mob).

Ruddy Turnstone: max 4 Knox-Mar 27 Jul (JM).

Red Knot: 3 Knox-Mar early Jun; MyPt 28 Jul (JM, LAVL), 1st TOMP record, banded, *intro*; Knox-Mar 4 Aug.

Stilt Sandpiper: max 58 Knox-Mar 3 Aug.

Sanderling: max 7 MyPt 28 Jul.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Knox-Mar 24-27 Aug.

Wilson's Phalarope: Knox-Mar 21 Jul-25 Aug.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 6 Knox-Mar 5 Aug.

Laughing Gull: Elmira Dam CHEM 5 Jun (BO).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Compost Piles TOMP 23 and 27 Jul (CW, mob).

Caspian Tern: max 262 Knox-Mar 4 Aug, high count.

Forster's Tern: 2 MyPt 2 Jun; MyPt 23 Aug, StP 30 Aug.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Red-headed Woodpecker: Mays Point SENE 7 Jul-31 Aug (MM, DNU, mob), breeding pair, Fries Cove CAYU Jun 1-Aug 31 (D&DS).

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Acadian Flycatcher: max 3 Fillmore Glen SP CAYU 4 Jul.

Tree Swallow: major nest losses due to cold snaps, *intro*.

SEDGE WREN (R3): East Rd SENE 4-7 Aug (JeB, CW, mob).

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Worm-eating Warbler: max 5 LPBP 2 Jul (DNU, JM, mob), *intro*.

Golden-winged Warbler: Ithaca 24 Aug (TS); Dryden 24 Aug.

“Lawrence’s” Warbler: Yellow Barn SF 24 Aug (KM), *intro*.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (R3):
Armitage Rd. SENE thru 25 Jul, probable
breeding.
Cape May Warbler: max 7 Laurel Hill
Cemetery SCHU 29 Aug.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW R3): LPBP
16 Jun-4 July (DNu, *et al*), likely paired with a
Field Sparrow, *intro*; Lick St. CAYU 2 Jun-26
Jun (JM, mob).
DICKCISSEL (R3): MyPt 27 Aug (CW).
Orchard Oriole: last MyPt 27 Aug.
Baltimore Oriole: max 30 Finger Lakes NF 6
Aug.
Red Crossbill: Geneva ONTA 16 Jun (JN).

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REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

The Region 4 report was not received for inclusion in this issue.

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REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

Matt Perry

3787 Dawes Ave., Clinton, NY 13323
mperry63@roadrunner.com

David Wheeler

20 Waterbury Dr., North Syracuse, NY 13212
tigger64@aol.com

The summer 2013 season started out with average temperatures and well above average amounts of rainfall that varied greatly across the Region. In Syracuse the total for June was 6.8", 3.49" above the norm, but nothing like what areas to the east received. Parts of the city of Rome received close to 12" of precipitation in June, while some areas of southern Oneida and southern Herkimer counties received even greater totals. The town of Kirkland received 11" of rain in June, and one single storm on 27-28 June brought close to 5" of rain to Colombia Center. These heavy rains brought the West Canada Creek, Oriskany Creek, Oneida Creek, and Mohawk River over their banks in many areas and caused great damage to homes, businesses, and transportation infrastructure. Several Erie Canal locks were also reportedly damaged and the city of Oneida was in an extended state of emergency due to flooding. Unusually heavy rain continued in these same hard-hit areas through the first week of July, compounding the disaster and hampering efforts at mitigation. In July the average temperature in Syracuse was 74.5° F, which is 3.2° warmer than average, and they had seven days with temperatures reaching 90° or above. July also showed disparity in the amounts of precipitation that fell across the Region. While Syracuse received

3.26" of rain, 0.52" less than average, areas to the east were again hit hard. Rome saw another 10" in the month of July. Temperatures in August returned to the statistical average and rainfall amounts for Syracuse were just under an inch below normal. August precipitation varied little throughout the Region and flood waters receded.

Flooding in the eastern half of the Region was undoubtedly responsible for many nest failures. With flooded areas out of reach, the extent of losses can only be presumed and not actually documented. With large sections of floodplain marshes along the Mohawk River and some of its tributaries subjected to extreme flooding during the peak of breeding season, nests of ducks, Pied-billed Grebe, bitterns, rails, Marsh Wren, Swamp Sparrow, and blackbirds were almost certainly lost. As normally placid woodland streams were transformed into raging torrents, one could easily imagine the nests of stream-side nesters like Louisiana Waterthrush and Winter Wren also being swept away. In Old Forge, Gary Lee reported 3" of rain on 11 June and 1.5" on 28 June. That was enough to raise water levels and destroy nests of some of the loons and ducks that he was monitoring. On 20 June at Big Moose Lake three out of five pairs of breeding Common Loon lost their nests when the water levels rose 18" overnight. Lee further reported that many upland songbirds also had their nests destroyed by the unrelenting rain. Long after the storms departed, high water levels persisted on most lakes throughout the Region, and this resulted in little habitat for migrant shorebirds. With canal levels high, Lake Delta was never drawn down and no mudflats emerged. Traditional shorebird habitat at Sandy Pond also suffered from high water and few birds for the birders that visited the spot. Channel dredging operations conducted from the South Spit also disrupted matters, and the Carl Island sandbar remained under water. A flooded farm field in the village of Madison (Madison County) unexpectedly provided the Region with many of its shorebird sightings for the summer period. Hundreds of mostly common species and a few not-so-common ones visited the spot in late July through early August, until the sun finally dried up the field.

This was an exceptional summer for virtually all wild fruit production and for mast in general. Oak and beech trees produced only moderately well in some areas, while hickory and other nut-bearing trees brought forth bumper crops. The cone crop on spruce trees is fair to excellent throughout the Region, but species of pine were not nearly so prolific. With such good wild food reserves perhaps the Region will host more overwintering songbirds. Reports indicate that impressive fruit and berry crops are widespread and there may be few areas of concentrated, conspicuous activity. The food supply is good news after last winter's overall lack, but many songbird nest predators may survive the winter and rodents may experience a population boom (which does not bode well for songbird breeding success next summer). Perhaps high numbers of small rodents will provide overwintering raptors and Northern Shrikes with good hunting.

Again this summer there were a few Snow Geese that remained in the area. Most notable was a group of eight that stayed on Skaneateles Lake through most of June. One lone Brant was found at the Utica Marsh on the first day of the period, but didn't linger and was last seen flying off to the west. Canada Goose

breeding success was scuttled by flooding, at least in some eastern parts of the Region. Heavier than usual predation on goose nests was also cited as a cause of poor nest production in some places. A pair of Trumpeter Swans produced young again this year at what seems to be developing into a traditional breeding spot—the wetlands along County Route 6 in Volney. Two separate reports of **Ruddy Shelduck** in June and August certainly involved escaped birds, but this handsome species added some spice to the relative dearth of waterfowl diversity in the first half of summer. A report of a single Gadwall on Onondaga Lake on 8 July gave rise to the hope that the species may be nesting, but no breeding was confirmed. An adult male Blue-winged Teal found there on 6 July was intriguing, but this season the only known breeding for that species was at Sterling Nature Center near Fair Haven. Migrant dabbling species picked up in the latter part of August. There were a few migrant diving ducks lingering into June, including one Long-tailed Duck at Little Moose Lake in the Adirondacks and single Buffleheads—one each at Skaneateles Lake and Sterling Nature Center. A male Redhead spent most of the summer period on Onondaga Lake and may be the same bird noted in previous periods.

Despite reported nest destruction from flooding, known Common Loon nests produced at least nine chicks on northern Herkimer County lakes by mid-July. Pied-billed Grebe may have been scarce in some eastern areas of the Region, but at County Route 6 Wayne Fidler counted 18 (including young) on 14 July. Least Bittern reports came from four locations, but all were of single birds with no confirmed breeding. Great Egrets were found in the Region but these sightings likely involved first-year non-breeding birds. Hopefully they'll breed here some day. By August migrant Great Egrets were turning up everywhere, including small backyard ponds where they provided residents with an excellent yard bird! Black-crowned Night-Herons were found at three locations in the Region but most persistently at Onondaga Lake, where one adult and two juveniles were often observed through July. At least one of the night-herons continued through the latter half of August. Will these birds attempt to winter again this year?

The Derby Hill Hawk Watch continued to be manned for the first few days of June. Bill Purcell tallied some respectable numbers of migrants on 1 June. That day strong west winds brought one Black Vulture, 54 Turkey Vultures, 35 Bald Eagles, and 211 Broad-winged Hawks. Several pairs of Bald Eagles were noted breeding in the Region—most from known nest sites. Early in the period they were present at a known site in Verona, but that nesting, if attempted, seems to have failed. The foundation of that Verona nest was a Great Blue Heron nest last used five years before. Interestingly, after the eagles abandoned it this year, a pair of Great Blue Herons was observed preparing it for their own use; turnabout is fair play. On 8 July, Mickey Scilingo observed an unusual sight in Constantia: an adult Broad-winged Hawk joined with American Crows and several Blue Jays to mob a Cooper's Hawk. Scilingo couldn't confirm whether the Broad-winged Hawk was nesting nearby. If it was, that might explain the motivation for a raptor finding common cause with songbirds. A Broad-winged Hawk nest in Constantia came down when its nest tree was cut; three fledglings

were brought in for rehabilitation and were later released. According to Jean Soprano, who rehabilitates raptors at a facility in Pennellville and often works in concert with Cornell and the DEC, the number of cases of West Nile Virus in raptors has been increasing in New York State. This summer there were at least six cases that came into her facility from various parts of Region 5. She has treated numerous infected birds from outside the Region as well. Most cases were confirmed by testing, but there were also instances where the virus was only strongly suspected due to the birds having symptoms consistent with WNV. Raptors affected this summer were mainly Red-tailed Hawks and Great Horned Owls, but there was a fledgling Bald Eagle from a Minetto nest that also tested positive for WNV. The same bird was also suffering from Botulism E. Surely the affected birds brought in for rehabilitation represent only a small number of the Region's birds that succumb to WNV in the wild.

Rails were mostly reported in the western half of the Region and only Virginia Rail and Common Gallinule were confirmed as breeding. There was only one report of American Coot for the period. Sandhill Cranes were reported at four locations, and those reports spanned the season, but there were no instances of confirmed breeding. It's just a matter of time before one of these pairs sets up housekeeping. With little shorebird habitat, numbers were poor. The unexpected mudflat that appeared in the village of Madison gave high counts of some common species. Most notable were 32 Solitary Sandpipers on 29 July, an excellent number. Upland Sandpipers were sighted at five locations and confirmed breeding only in Fairfield, Herkimer County by Larry Hall and Elizabeth Frascatore. One Whimbrel was observed by Kevin McGann on Oneida Lake at Constantia and two were seen at Oswego Harbor on the first day of August. Ruddy Turnstones were found at three locations, including the Madison spot. Only two White-rumped Sandpipers were reported, including one late spring migrant at Sandy Pond on 11 June. There was only one report each for Stilt Sandpiper and six Short-billed Dowitchers, both found by Brenda Best at the Madison flooded field and Sylvan Beach, respectively. No uncommon gulls were reported during the period, but Black Tern was found at three locations including Woodman Pond in Madison County, an unusual spot. One adult **Long-tailed Jaeger** was seen at Derby Hill by Dave Wheeler and Bill Purcell on 15 August. Adult Long-tails lack white in the underwings and are thus distinctive.

Numbers of both cuckoo species were down again this year, despite a significant outbreak of Gypsy Moth Caterpillars in some eastern parts of the Region. It seemed that cuckoos were taking advantage of the infestation during the first part of June, but by the end numbers of both caterpillar and cuckoo dropped noticeably off. Matt Perry speculated that this was due to the historic rain events that effectively drowned most of the caterpillars. Perry found many examples of late instars of Gypsy Moth larvae apparently drowned while clinging onto the trunks of their host trees. Owls were hard to come by this summer, and there were relatively few reports of even the common species. This probably reflects a lack of effort on the part of birders when it comes to ferreting out our most secretive nocturnal birds. Most reports of Eastern Screech-Owl

PHOTO GALLERY
Summer 2013



Eastern Bluebirds, the Great Vly, *Ulster*, 14 Jul 2013, © Scott Stoner.



Bobolink, Saratoga Battlefield, *Saratoga*, 22 Jun 2013, © Scott Stoner.



Black-billed Cuckoo, Oatka Creek Park, *Monroe*, 27 Jul 2013, © Jim Adams.



Elegant Tern, near Moriches Inlet, *Suffolk*, 3 Jul 2013; © Andrew Baksh.



Red-necked Stint, near Moriches Inlet, *Suffolk*, NY, 30 Jun 2013, © John Gluth.



Hybrid *Calidris*, likely Dunlin x White-rumped Sandpiper, near Moriches Inlet, *Suffolk*, NY, 3 Jul 2013, © Andrew Baksh.



Continuing Red-necked Stint & hybrid *Calidris*, near Moriches Inlet, *Suffolk*, NY, 4 Jul 2013, © S. S. Mitra.



Arctic Tern Nickerson Beach, *Nassau*, 18 Jun 2013, © Brendan Fogarty.

Figures from Shanley article, pp. 286-288.

Figure 1. Blue Grosbeak Totals New York State (2009-2013).

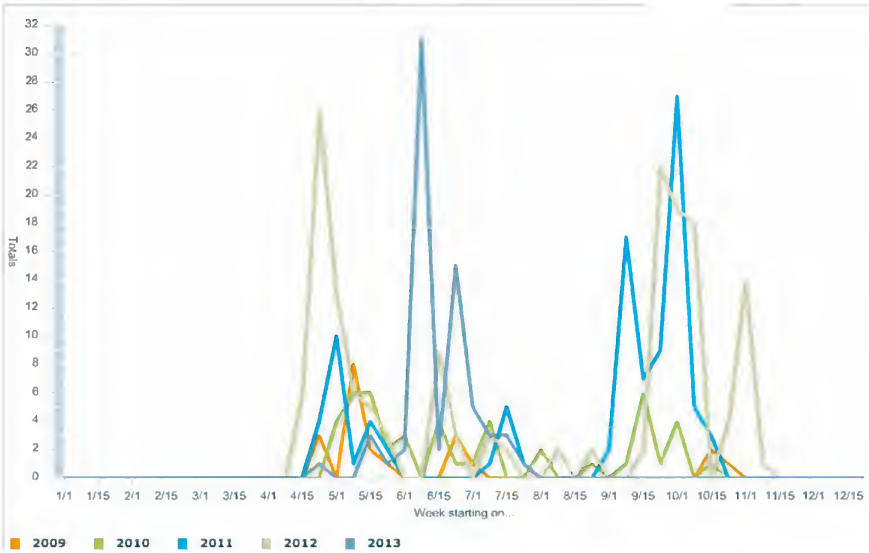


Table 2. Blue Grosbeak Totals New York State Breeding Season (June-July 2009-2013).

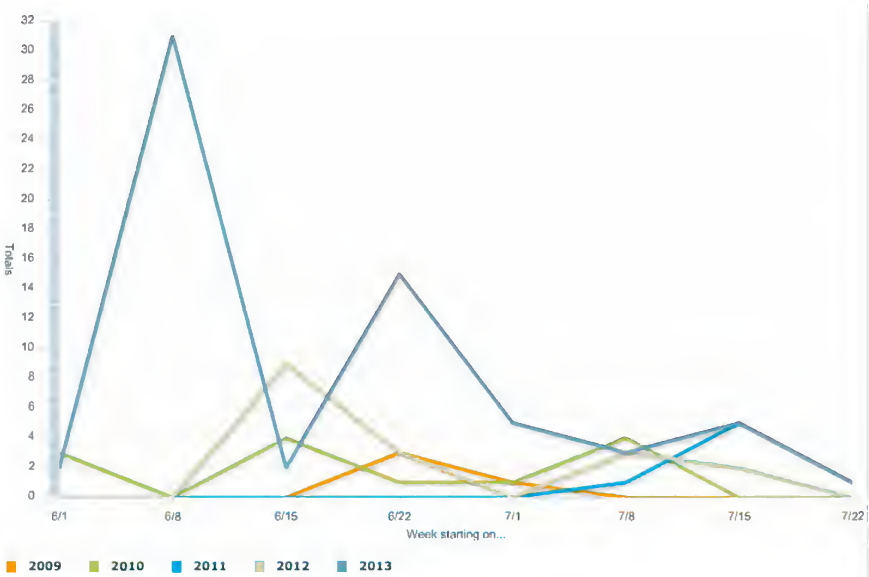
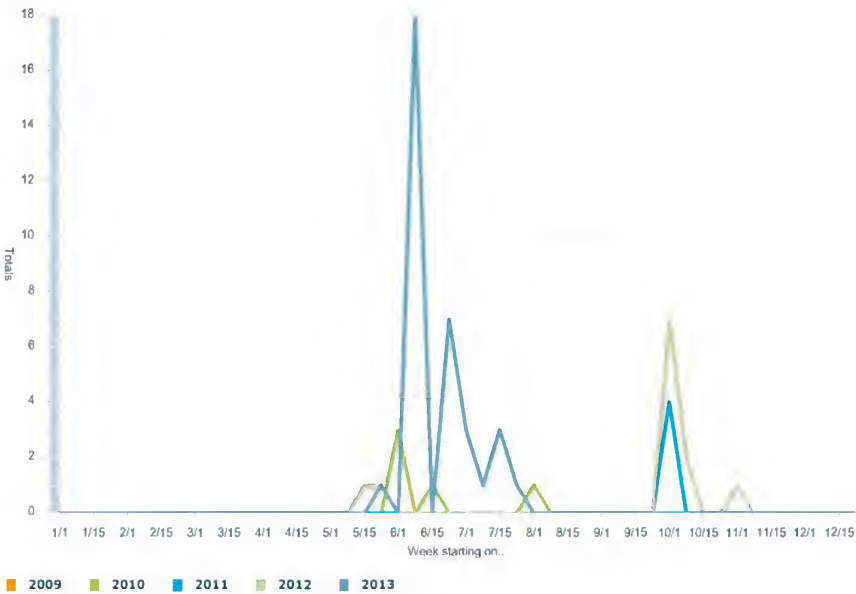


Figure 3. Blue Grosbeak Totals Richmond Co. Staten Island (2009-2013).



Blue Grosbeak, Mt. Loretto Unique Area, Richmond, 8 Jun 2013, © Andrew Baksh.



Fork-tailed Flycatcher, East Hampton Airport, *Suffolk*, 25 Jun 2013, © Terry Sullivan.



Adult and juvenile Turkey Vultures, Westhampton, *Suffolk*, 5 Aug 2013, nest cam image courtesy Chip Hamilton, DEC.



Andy Guthrie photographed this Neotropic Cormorant on 14 Aug in a flock of Double-crested Cormorants flying west past Hamlin Beach SP, Monroe. Pending review, this would represent the first record for New York State.

came from the eastern part of the Region. The only uncommon species found by a field observer was Northern Saw-whet Owl, an adult found in Durhamville on 20 August. A juvenile saw-whet was brought in to an Oneida County rehabilitator and later released. After an unusually good Common Nighthawk movement on the Ontario lakeshore in May, August migration was disappointing. Out of only 20 reports, the high count was nine nighthawks over Hastings on 24 August. Five E. Whip-poor-wills were found in Salisbury, Herkimer County, by Barbara & Larry Hall on 21 June. There were only a few singles reported otherwise. Chimney Swift numbers appeared to be significantly down for the period. Birders visiting the formerly-excellent communal roost in Oneida were disappointed to find only a fraction of last year's numbers. Red-headed Woodpeckers were found only in expected areas, and the only confirmed breeding was in a wooded swamp at Verona Beach State Park. There Matt Perry monitored a nest from the time the nest hole was started on 15 June up until 10 August when at least one nestling was observed being fed at the rim of the nest. An interesting observation was that one of the adults disappeared after the second week of July, leaving the remaining parent to raise the young on its own. This understandably slowed down the development of the nestlings and probably delayed fledging. On one lucky July morning, Perry noted the presence of all seven of the Region's expected woodpeckers in the same location at the same time, a possibly unprecedented alignment of circumstances.

Merlins were confirmed breeders in Liverpool when one nestling was brought to Jean Soprano for rehabilitation. Young birds in the same nest were said to be developing normally. Breeding was also confirmed in Thendara, where Gary Lee observed an adult with four young on 23 July. Resident pairs of Peregrine Falcons in both Syracuse and Utica failed to breed this year, but at the latter location the falcons did discover their recently-installed nest box and seem to have adopted it. One badly injured juvenile Peregrine was found standing in shallow water at an Ilion-area pond. The bird was brought to a wildlife rehabilitator in nearby Oneida County, where it later expired. There were five reports of migrant Olive-sided Flycatcher after 19 August, and likewise five reports of Yellow-bellied Flycatcher after 23 August. During the breeding season Acadian Flycatcher was present at its traditional territory in Whiskey Hollow. The species was also detected at Three Rivers WMA at what might hopefully become a new breeding location for this Regional anomaly. Breeding was not confirmed in either place. At least in some parts of the Region, the other three breeding *empidonax* species were found in lower numbers than normal. This seemed to be the case with Warbling Vireo as well. An American Crow from Parish was confirmed with WNV, and there were at least seven other suspected cases around Region 5. Blue Jays were also found to have the virus. Common Raven family groups were noted in several areas away from their traditional haunts, thus providing more evidence of breeding range expansion. For the second year in a row, the number of breeding Tree Swallows seemed to be noticeably down in areas east of Oneida Lake. Several observers who maintain bluebird box trails noted substantially fewer nest boxes being used by Tree Swallow during the period. Low numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatch

reported for this summer might be explained by the lack of food from last year's cone crop and mast. Hopefully their numbers will rise again this fall given the food reserves now available.

The high count for Wood Thrushes during the period was 18 found in two miles of mature forest growth owned by Hamilton College in the town of Kirkland. With the next highest count at 10, one could wonder if enough breeding-season birding effort is being put into the more promising habitat in the Region. Surely there can be higher counts of vireos, thrushes, and woodland warblers than seen this season. Or were there really fewer birds? Hopefully next summer Region 5 birders will accept the challenge to bird more extensively in places that our neotropical songbirds breed. Disappointing numbers for Louisiana Waterthrush continue in the Region; there were only five records of this difficult to see, but easy to hear, species. Single Golden-winged Warblers were reported from only three locations, and none was reported after 19 June. There were three individual Blue-winged x Golden-winged hybrids, including one rare "**Lawrence's**" Warbler continuing from the spring period at Great Bear Recreation Area on 15 June. Hooded Warbler seemed to be represented in lower than normal concentration in some areas. One singing male found at Lake Julia in northern Oneida County may represent continued range expansion. Cerulean Warblers were hard to come by away from Howland Island and a few places in Oswego County, with none at some former breeding spots. Prothonotary Warbler was not reported from the traditional Toad Harbor site. Respectable numbers of Magnolia and Blackburnian Warblers were tallied in the Woodford State Forest in Sangerfield in southern Oneida County. Are those high counts anomalous or are they typical for tracts of forest of similar size and composition located throughout the southern parts of our Region? Pine Warbler seemed to be well represented in appropriate habitat this summer. Since the species' song can be confused with Chipping Sparrow and Dark-eyed Junco, which often occur in the same habitat, observers lacking visual confirmation may have a tendency to under-report them. A Yellow-breasted Chat was found singing at the Camillus State Forest Unique Area by Drew Weber. The bird was first seen on 7 July and remained there for at least four days, by which time it had been seen, heard, and photographed by many birders. Two days later at another Camillus location, Weber found a second chat or perhaps the original bird. The timing of chats in upstate NY is a mystery of sorts. Do they arrive in May, June, or July? Do July first-detections reflect a conspicuous last-ditch effort by a male Chat to find a mate?

This season, Clay-colored Sparrow was confirmed breeding, perhaps for the first time, in southern Oneida County. On 25 June a pair was seen feeding young in an early successional field on the border of Spring Farm Nature Preserve in Kirkland. Several pairs were discovered using the same territory last year, but breeding was not confirmed at that time. Grasshopper Sparrows were found in better numbers than usual this period. A maximum of eight was reported on 4 July by Dave Cesari at Griffiss Business and Technology Park in Rome. For the last decade or so, it seemed that the breeding population of Orchard Orioles had been building up in the eastern part of the Region, but this

year none were found. Fortunately, populations in the western half of the Region seemed to be present and accounted for. Green Lakes State Park was responsible for the high count of four seen by multiple observers during the last week of June. Winter finches were largely absent, with only a very few sightings. Evening Grosbeak was reported in three areas, but again, only in very small numbers. Linda Salter observed a pair with young at her residence in the Southern Highlands. In fact, she needed to rescue one Evening Grosbeak fledgling that somehow managed to be hanging upside-down from a clothesline.

Detailed interpretation of night flight-call data from the microphone operating at Derby Hill is beyond the scope of this writeup, but it is worth noting good movements and species trends. Am. Redstarts, Yellow Warblers, Ovenbirds, and Canada Warblers were on the move throughout August, with the other warblers joining during the last week. The first Cape May call was noted on 10-11 August, while 58 Cape May calls were recorded on the night of 28-29 August. Because some birds may call twice, the actual count of Cape Mays would be somewhat less, but still an excellent number. The busiest flight overnights in the period were 23-24, 27-28, 28-29, and 29-30 August, on which 292, 266, 502, and 315 flight calls, respectively, were recorded. A broad spectrum of species was picked up on these good flight nights. There were evenings, however, when the Derby microphone picked up far fewer calls than other microphones in upstate NY. Why? Derby is the only shoreline site and may be subject to more wind/wave noise than inland sites. Work remains to fully understand the data. Please note also that these counts are not included in the Synopsis at the present time. For more info and daily night flight-call counts, see www.oldbird.org.

This season a total of 209 species was reported for the season, which is seven more than the recent 10-year average of 202. Highlights included: Brant, Trumpeter Swan (breeding), Redhead, Long-tailed Duck, **Black Vulture**, **Sandhill Crane**, Whimbrel, Ruddy Turnstone, **Long-tailed Jaeger**, Northern Saw-whet Owl, "Lawrence's" Warbler, **Yellow-breasted Chat**, Clay-colored Sparrow, and **Evening Grosbeak**.

Swan Swan Hummingbird v4.02 was used to process 29,558 eBird records from 165 contributors.

CONTRIBUTORS

Graham Annett, Betty Armbruster, Tom Auer (TA), Philip Baker, Brenda Best (BB), Sue Boettger, Joseph Brin (JB), Todd Brown, Matt Brunelle, Ken & Rose Burdick (KRB), Andrea Burke, Doug Cameron, Bernie Carr (BC), Gerald Case (GC), David Cesari (DC), Richard Cohen (RC), John Collins, Rosanne Costello (RoC), Jim D'Angelo (JD), Greg Dashnau (GD), Tyler Davis, Rose DeNeve, Joe DeVito, Gina Kent, Wayne Fidler (WF), Kyle Flagg (KF), Elizabeth Frascatore, Natalia Garcia, Louise Gomez, Leo Gordona, Bill Gruenbaum, Michael Gruver, Barbara & Larry Hall (BLH), Eric Hoffman, Sam Hough (SH), Kirk Huffstater (KH), Gene Huggins, Steve Kahl, Logan Kahle, Stefan Karkuff (SKa), Gary Kohlenberg, Rich & Mary Kowalski (RMK), Joshua LaCelle (JaL),

Josiah LaCelle (JhL), Robbie LaCelle (RL), Greg Lawrence, Gary Lee (GL), Mark Magistro, Kevin McGann (KM), Jay McGowan (JM), Bob McGuire, David Nash (DN), Mitch Nusbaum (MN), Dave Nutter, Matt Perry (MP), John Pumilio, Jay Powell, Bill Purcell (BP), Paul Richardson, Ken Rosenberg, Margaret Rusk, Linda Salter (LS), Mickey Scilingo (MS), Tony Shrimpton, Jean Soprano (JS), Chris Spagnoli (CS), Paul Swigart, Jim Tarolli (JT), Judy Thurber, Fran Vanderveer, Andrew Van Norstrand (AVN), Matt Voelker (MV), Brad Walker, Drew Weber (DWe), David Wheeler (DW), Brian White (BW), Tim Whitens, Andrea Wiggins (AW), Robert G. Williams III (RW), Judy Wright (JW), Ken Zoller.

ABBREVIATIONS

Adks – Adirondacks (n. HERK); BLNC – Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville; Bville – Baldwinsville; CM – Clay Marsh, Clay; Const – Oneida Lake at Constantia; DB – Ditch Bank Rd. & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; DH – Derby Hill, T Mexico; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; GB – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; GBTP – Griffiss Business & Technology Park; GLSP – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; GSC – Great Swamp Conservancy, n. MADI; HF – Highland Forest, Tully; HI – Howland Island WMA, Port Byron; HV – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; KW – Kirkland Woods, Kirkland; LOnt – Lake Ontario; MCL – Madison County Landfill, T Lincoln; MPSP – Mexico Point SP; OF – Old Forge; OneiL – Oneida Lake; OnonL – Onondaga Lake; OswH – Oswego Harbor; PPt – Oneida Lake at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; Pville – Pennellville; RPPB – Rome Pitch Pine Bog; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; SH – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; Skan – Skaneateles; SNC – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; SR – Stillwater Reservoir, Adirondacks; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; UM – Utica Marsh; VBSP – Verona Beach SP; Volney – County Route 6 wetlands, Volney; WH – Whiskey Hollow; WMSF – Woodford Memorial State Forest, Sangerfield; WP – Woodman Pond, Hamilton.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: 6 Fulton 25 Jun (TW); 8 Skan thru 25 Jun, 1 thru 15 Aug (KB).
Brant: UM 1 Jun (MP), only report.
Canada Goose: max 139 OnonL 12 Jun; poor breeding success in east.
Mute Swan: max 6 FH 10 Jul; 5 Bville 19 Aug.
Trumpeter Swan: max 7 Volney 9-11 Jun (WF, mob), confirmed breeding there.
Wood Duck: max 87 DH 28 Aug; 75 UM 3 Aug; 53 Volney 25 Jul.
Gadwall: OnonL 8 Jul (DW, JT); Jamesville Reservoir 30 Aug (MN); only reports.
Am. Wigeon: no reports
Am. Black Duck: max 4 HI 24 Jul & Litchfield 19 Aug; few reports.
Mallard: max 300 OnonL 22 Aug; 154 Skan

18 Jul.

Blue-winged Teal: pair SNC 12 Jun (RMK); f & yng 22 Jun, same location (JD); ad OnonL 6 Jul (DW).
N. Shoveler: Tully 28 Aug (LG), only report.
N. Pintail: 2 Litchfield 19 Aug; WP 25 Aug; only reports.
Green-winged Teal: 2 WP 22 Aug; 2 Deer Creek WMA 24 Aug; 4 reports.
Redhead: male OnonL 8 Jul – 29 Aug (DW, JT, DWe).
Ring-necked Duck: male Crooked Lake 7 Jun (GH); OneiL 29 Aug; only reports.
Long-tailed Duck: Little Moose Lake 30 Jun (GL).
Bufflehead: f Skan 11 Jun (KB); f SNC 22 Jun.
Com. Goldeneye: male Skan 12 Jun thru (KB).

Hooded Merganser: f & young Volney 9 Jun; 3 Skan 30 Jul; 2 TR 18 Jun.

Com. Merganser: max 11 Skan 30 Jul; 10 OF 28 Aug; few breeding season reports.

Red-breasted Merganser: f Oneil 6 Aug (TA), uncommon in summer.

N. Bobwhite: few sightings from known release sites.

Ring-necked Pheasant: few reports.

Ruffed Grouse: max 11 Hastings 22 Jun; f & yng SFNS 11 Jun; relatively few reports.

Wild Turkey: max 17 Whitestown 27 Aug; 15 Doldgeville 13 Aug.

Com. Loon: max 4 SR 6 Jul; 3 Moss Lake 17 Jul; nest losses due to flooding, *intro*.

Pied-billed Grebe: max 18 (incl imm) Volney 14 Jul; low numbers in east.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 500 OnonL 31 Aug; 200 Const 8 Jun.

Am. Bittern: max 2 Verona 2 Jun (BB); only 5 reports.

Least Bittern: singles CM, Volney, HI & UM, none after 10 Jul.

Great Blue Heron: max 60 SNC 12 Jun, at active rookery; 15 Canastota 22 Jun; 15 Kirkville 26 Jun.

Great Egret: max 7 UM 14 Aug; widespread reports, *intro*

Green Heron: max 22 Volney 4 Aug (WF, MM), good number; 14 WP 25 Aug.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: max 3 (ad & 2 juv) thru 26 Jul; Pulaski 20 Jul; HI 24 Jul (KF).

HAWKS - ALCIDS

BLACK VULTURE (R5): DH 1 Jun (BP), only report.

Turkey Vulture: max 54 DH 1 Jun; 28 Canastota 31 Aug; 22 DB 31 Aug.

Osprey: max 5 GSC 26 Jul & 5 LOnt 1 Aug; 4 DH 24 Jul.

Bald Eagle: max 35 DH 1 Jun (BP); 3 VBSP 15 Jun; 3 TR 25, 27 Jun; 3 Pulaski 13 Aug; active nests reported at TR, Phoenix, & Minetto. fledgling w/with West Nile Virus at latter site, *intro*.

N. Harrier: 3 DH 1 Jun; approximately 30 singles reported.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: relatively few reports.

Cooper's Hawk: max 3 N Syr 24 Aug; 2 Tully 13 Jul.

N. Goshawk: no reports.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 2 Cicero 2 Jul; few reports, most from Oneil vicinity.

Broad-winged Hawk: max 211 DH 1 Jun (BP); 3 SH 6 Jul; 3 Camden 22 Jul; *intro*.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 12 DH 1 Jun; 5 with West Nile Virus come into Pville rehabilitator, *intro*.

Virginia Rail: max 5 (4 ad & imm) Volney 4 Jun; 3 WP 23 Jun.

Sora: max 2 Volney 4 Jun; Verona 2 Jun; CM 9 Jun; only reports.

Com. Gallinule: max 18 Volney 14 Jul; 4 UM 1 Jun; 9 (pr & 7 imm) WP 13 Jul.

Am. Coot: 6 OnonL 29 Jul, only report.

Sandhill Crane: DH 9 Jun (JW); 2 Pulaski 13 Aug (KH); 2 DB 26 Aug (BW); 2 Canastota 27 Aug (SH).

Black-bellied Plover: Madison 1 Aug (JP), only report.

Am. Golden-Plover: OnonL 28-31 Aug (MS, mob), only report.

Semipalmated Plover: last 10 Jun; arr 22 Jul SP; max 5 Madison 2 Aug; 3 SB 28 Jul; 3 OnonL 29-31 Aug; small numbers.

Killdeer: max 82 DB 28 Jul (BP); 50 Madison 24-28 Jul; 42 Sauquoit 23 Aug.

Spotted Sandpiper: max 9 Oswego 14 Jul; 5 Madison 29 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper: last PPT 2 Jun; arr Phoenix 10 Jul, early; max 32 Madison 29 Jul (BP), good number.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr 24 Jul Madison; max 5 Madison 3 Aug; 2 Verona 7 Aug; 2 Skan 12 Aug; poor numbers.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr DB 28 Jul; max 27 Madison 29 Jul; 8 Verona 7 Aug; 11 Sauquoit 23 Aug.

Upland Sandpiper: max 7 (2 ad & 5 imm) Fairfield (LH, EF); 2 Oswego Co Airport 9 Jun; few reports.

Whimbrel: last Const 1 Jun (KM); max 2 OswH 1 Aug (RoC, DW, RD), only sightings.

Ruddy Turnstone: last & max 3 Const 1 Jun (KM); arr 29 Jul Madison; 2 Madison 30 Jul; 1 OswH 1 Aug (mob); only reports.

Sanderling: arr 12 SP 22 Jul; max SB 28 Jul; 7 OswH 1 Aug; 2 FH 4 Aug; few reports.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 5 FH 5 Jun; arr & max 10 SP 22 Jul; 8 Const 4 Jun; 7 OnonL 25 Aug.

Least Sandpiper: arr 12 Syr 14 Jul; max 46 Madison 2 Aug; 20 OnonL 22 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: last SP 11 Jun (BP); SB 10 Aug (BB); only reports.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr & max 3 Madison 2 Aug; also 3 Sauquoit 23 Aug; only 5 reports.

Stilt Sandpiper: 1 Madison 3 Aug (BB), only report.

Short-billed Dowitcher: 6 SB 31 Aug (BB), only report.

Wilson's Snipe: max 3 Pompey 17-18 Aug; 2 Whitestown 4 Jul; 2 Madison 27 Jul; only around 10 reports.

Am. Woodcock: 2 SFNS 19 Jun; 2 TR 31 Aug; relatively few reports.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr Oneil 28 Jul; max 229 SB 10 Aug; few sightings away from Oneil.
Ring-billed Gull: max 900 DB 28 Jul; 430 SB 28 Jul; 350 OnonL 27 Aug.
Herring Gull: max 260 OswH 22 Jul; leucistic OnonL 22 Jul (DWe); 40 MCL 1 Aug.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 18 OswH 22 Jul; 15 SB 6 Aug.
Caspian Tern: max 115 OswH 14 Jun (WF); 87 SP 11 Jun; generally good numbers.
Black Tern: max 4 Deer Creek WMA 29 Jun (GL); 3 Const 7 Jun (JB); 2 WP 12 Jun (SH, RC), unusual location.
Com. Tern: max 200 Const 8 Jun (BP); 23 SP 11 Jun.
LONG-TAILED JAEGER: ad DH 15 Aug (DW, BP, NYSARC).

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Rock Pigeon: max 107 Litchfield 19 Aug.
Mourning Dove: max 54 Dolgeville 26 Aug; 31 Cicero 8 Aug.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: max 2 HI 8 Jun; relatively few reports of singles.
Black-billed Cuckoo: max 4 HI 8 Jun; 3 SFNS 14 Jun.
E. Screech-Owl: max 2 Pompey 5 Aug; singles Clinton & W Winfield; few reports.
Great Horned Owl: max 2 Clay 1 Aug; relatively few reports.
Barred Owl: max 2 Mexico 28 Jul, 20 Aug; also 2 HI 24, 25 Aug.
N. Saw-whet Owl: Durhamville 20 Aug (BB); juv taken to ONEI rehabilitator.
Com. Nighthawk: last 4 Camden 5 Jun; arr 4 Tully 15 Aug; max 9 Hastings 24 Aug; 5 CM 25 Aug; 5 Boonville 25 Aug; 5 TR 28 Aug; 20 reports of migrants, are there any nesters left in Region?
E. Whip-poor-will: max 5 Salisbury 21 Jun (BLH); 1 Constantia 8 Jun; 1 TR 20 Jun; few reports.
Chimney Swift: max 30 Dolgeville 12 Aug; 20 UM 3 Aug; 30 Oneida 18 Aug; generally poor numbers.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 7 Pulaski 13 Aug; 6 DH 1 Jun; 6 Hastings 1, 2 Jul.
Belted Kingfisher: max 5 UM 16 Aug, also 5 Tully 31 Aug.
Red-headed Woodpecker: DH 1 Jun, migrant; pr New Haven 4 Jun; 2 Bville 2 Jun; confirmed breeding VBSP, *intro*.
Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 5 HI 20 Jun; also 5 TR 25 Jun.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 5 WMSF 27 Jun & Otto Mills 7 Jul.
Downy Woodpecker: max 6 HI 24 Aug.

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Hairy Woodpecker: max 4 Dolgeville 8 Jun, 22 Aug; also 4 VBSP 30 Jun; 4 Rome 26 Jul.
N. Flicker: max 15 Clay 18 Aug.
Pileated Woodpecker: max 3 Bville 4 Jul & 3 Pulaski 13 Aug.
Am. Kestrel: max 15 GBTP 15 Aug (DC), good number, presume family groups; 6 SH 20 Aug.
Merlin: max 5 (ad & 4 imm) Thendara 23 Jul (GL); numerous sightings in Syr; confirmed nest Liverpool (JS).
Peregrine Falcon: max 3 Syr 9 Aug & 3 Utica 17 Aug; no known breeding; juv Ilion 29 Aug, injured, brought to rehabilitator.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr Litchfield 19 Aug; SFNS 22-25 Aug; 3 other singles.
E. Wood-Pewee: max 11 Cicero 8 Aug; 10 TR 25 Jun.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr Hastings 23 Aug; max 2 SH 28 Aug; 3 other reports of singles.
Acadian Flycatcher: TR 1 Jun – 4 Jul (JB, TB), new location: WH 14 Jun – 26 Jul (JB, mob).
Alder Flycatcher: max 3 SH 14 Jun; low numbers reported in some areas.
Willow Flycatcher: max 7 Tully Marsh 21 Jun; 4 West Monroe 29 Jun; low numbers in areas east.
Least Flycatcher: max 8 Otto Mills 4 Jun; 4 Camden 27 Jun; 4 Cicero 8 Aug; low numbers in some areas.
E. Phoebe: max 6 Dolgeville 11, 17 Jun & GLSP 5 Jun & Hastings 14 Jul.
Great Crested Flycatcher: max 7 TR 25 Jun; 6 VBSP 15 Jun; good numbers.
E. Kingbird: max 10 SSSP 9 Jun; also 10 Madison 5 Aug; 9 Cicero 8 Aug.
Yellow-throated Vireo: max 4 VBSP 21 Jun; also 4 WH 17 Jul; ad feeding cowbird VBSP 15 Jun.
Blue-headed Vireo: max 6 Bald Mountain, Adks 22 Aug; 3 Otto Mills 4 Jun; low numbers.
Warbling Vireo: max 5 UM 1 Jun; also 5 HI 20 Jun; low numbers in some areas.
Philadelphia Vireo: arr Lake Rondaxe, Adks 23 Aug; max 2 WP 31 Aug (SH); 3 reports.
Red-eyed Vireo: max 21 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 23 Aug; 20 VBSP 15 Jun; 17 WH 18 Jun.
Blue Jay: max 328 DH 1 Jun, spring migrants; 18 WMSF 27 Jun.
Am. Crow: max 300 Dolgeville 20 Aug.
Fish Crow: max 5 Verona 22 Jun (BB); all other sightings from OnonL.
Com. Raven: max 7 Hastings 7 Jul; 6 Volney

25 Jun; 4 (2 ad & 2 imm) TR 25, 26 Jun (JB); 4 SFNS 24 Jun.

Horned Lark: max 17 DB 22 Aug (BB); 6 reports for Canastota and HI.

Purple Martin: max 20 Const 1 Jun; 16 Skan 6-25 Jun; most sightings from Oneil and Skan.

Tree Swallow: max 500 N Winfield 23 Aug; 50 Madison 28 Jul; low numbers breed in some areas east.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: max 20 HI 31 Aug; 12 Madison 25 Jul.

Bank Swallow: max 38 Central Square 16 Aug; 29 Tully 5 Jul.

Cliff Swallow: max 15 Clay 25 Jun, 9 nests on building (AVN); none returned to former nest site in Rome (DC).

Barn Swallow: max 197 Cicero 8 Aug; 110 Skan 5 Aug; 90 DB 28 Jul.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 28 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 23 Aug; 20 WMSF 27 Jun.

Tufted Titmouse: max 6 Marcellus 12 Jul; also 6 HI 24 Aug.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 4 WMSF 27 Jun; 3 BLNC 28 Jun; 3 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 23 Aug, few reports.

White-breasted Nuthatch: max 7 HI 24 Aug; 6 CM 28 Aug.

Brown Creeper: max 3 Lake Julia, Remsen 12 Jun; also 3 VBSP 18 Jun; also 3 RPPB 20 Jun.

House Wren: max 12 SFNS 22 Jun; 10 Dolgeville 30 Jun.

Winter Wren: max 4 WH 17 Jun; 3 HV 14 Jun; 3 Town of Ohio 11-12 Jul.

Marsh Wren: max 5 HI 18 Jul; found in expected locations.

Carolina Wren: max 5 Clinton 14 Jul; 3 Liverpool 20, 28 Aug; average numbers.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 3 GB 19 Jun; also 3 TR 25 Jun; generally hard to come by.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 10 WMSF 12 Jul; 3 New Woodstock 3 Aug; relatively scarce.

E. Bluebird: max 10 DH 1 Jun; 9 Jamesville 30 Aug; 7 GLSP 27 Jun.

Veery: max 14 WH 4 Jul; 13 VBSP 21 Jun; 12 TR 21 Jun; 12 GB 19, 23 Jun.

Swainson's Thrush: max 3 Otto Mills (JB); singing Cold Brook 21 Jun (MP); several reports from Adks.

Hermit Thrush: max 10 RPPB 20 Jun; 8 HV 14 Jun.

Wood Thrush: max 18 KW 18 Jul; 11 HI 20 Jun; 10 WH 17 Jun; 10 Hamilton 26 Jul.

Am. Robin: max 56 CM 28 Aug; 40 GLSP 5 Jul.

Gray Catbird: max 31 CM 28 Aug; 28 Manlius 3 Jul.

N. Mockingbird: max 4 Syr 7 Jun; few sightings east of Oneil.

Brown Thrasher: max 7 GLSP 27 Jun.

Cedar Waxwing: max 50 VBSP 5 Aug; 46 DH 1 Jun.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Ovenbird: max 22 HF 24 Jun; 16 HV 14 Jun; 16 GB 19 Jun; ad w distraction display SFNS 16 Jun.

Louisiana Waterthrush: max 2 Marcellus 12 Jul; scarce, only 4 other reports of singles.

N. Waterthrush: max 9 (6 ad & 3 imm) RPPB 20 Jun; 8 BLNC 24 Jun.

Golden-winged Warbler: singles from Scriba, Pville, and Eaton; none after 19 Jun.

Blue-winged Warbler: max 3 Hastings 4 Jun; also 3 Scriba 7, 9 Jun; relatively low numbers.

"Brewster's" Warbler: Hastings 8 Jun (BP); Rome 25 Aug (RC); only reports.

"Lawrence's" Warbler: GB 4-15 Jun (JB, mob), only occurrence.

Black-and-white Warbler: max 3 Fourth Lake, Adks 20 Jul; singles & pairs found in expected areas.

Prothonotary Warbler: no reports.

Tennessee Warbler: arr Dolgeville 22 Aug; max 3 SFNS 28 Aug.

Nashville Warbler: 6 RPPB 20 Jun; 2 Cold Brook 21 Jun; relatively scarce during breeding season.

Connecticut Warbler: Durhamville 30 Aug (BB!).

Mourning Warbler: max 4 WMSF 27 Jun; 3 KW 3 Jun; 3 SFNS 8 Jun.

Com. Yellowthroat: max 15 WMSF 27 Jun; 13 TR 25 Jun; 13 Mexico 17 Aug; pr feeding cowbird SFNS 4 Jul.

Hooded Warbler: max 7 KW 14 Jun (DC); 5 BLNC 10, 24 Jun; 5 WH 2 Jul; m Lake Julia 23 Jun (MS). possible expansion in n. ONEI.

Am. Redstart: max 16 HI 20 Jun; 10 SSSP 30 Jun; 10 Cicero 8 Aug; pr feeding cowbird Trenton 28 Jul.

Cape May Warbler: arr CM 18 Aug; Hamilton 27 Aug; only reports, but see *intro*.

Cerulean Warbler: max 4 HI 17 Jun (KB); 3 New Haven 14 Jun; last 2 HI 18 Jul; none around Oneil.

N. Parula: singing Lake Julia 12 Jun, unusual loc (MP); 7 breeding-season records from Adks/Remsen.

Magnolia Warbler: max 10 WMSF 27 Jun; 3 Orwell 9 Jun; 3 Cold Brook 21 Jun.

Bay-breasted Warbler: MPSP 28 Aug, only report.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 6 WMSF 27 Jun; also 6 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 23 Aug.

Yellow Warbler: max 23 CM 9 Jun; 12 FH 5 Jun; 12 VBSP 18 Jun.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 6 Hastings 24 Jun; also 6 SH 10, 11 Aug; 4 WMSF 27 Jun, 12 Jul.

Blackpoll Warbler: last DH 1 Jun; arr Ohio, Hastings, OnonL 27 Aug.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 4 Redfield 23 Jun; low numbers at other expected locations.

Palm Warbler: arr SFNS 25 Aug, early, only report.

Pine Warbler: max 4 Redfield 11 Jun; 3 Otto Mills 4 Jun; 3 Klondike State Forest, Williamstown 12 Jun; good numbers.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 5 WMSF 27 Jun, 12 Jul; also 5 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 23 Aug; relatively poor numbers.

Prairie Warbler: singing male HV 6-23 Jun (MS, mob); Tully 14-16 Jul (DWe, mob).

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 7 Lake Rondaxe, Adks 23 Aug; 4 Ohio 11 Jul; low numbers in some areas.

Canada Warbler: max 6 RPPB 20 Jun.

Wilson's Warbler: last TR 1 Jun; arr Hastings 19 Aug; 5 individuals found.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (R5): Camillus State Forest Unique Area 7-11 Jul (DWe!, mob, ph); Camillus 13 Jul (DWe), same bird?

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: max 8 Hastings 2 Jul; 7 GLSP 27 Jun; 5 TR 1, 24 Jun; 5 RPPB 20 Jun; good numbers.

Chipping Sparrow: max 14 Hastings 31 Aug.

Clay-colored Sparrow: pair with young SFNS 25 Jun (MP, mob), 1st confirmed breeding in ONEI.

Field Sparrow: max 10 TR 25 Jun & 10 GLSP 10 Jul.

Vesper Sparrow: max 3 WH 29 Jun (JB); reported from 4 locations.

Savannah Sparrow: max 11 Fabius 12 Jun; 9 Tully 7 Jun; 7 Bville 27 Jul; low number in east.

Grasshopper Sparrow: max 8 GBTP 4 Jul (DC); 5 Richland 8 Jun (WF).

Song Sparrow: max 19 VBSP 18 Jun; 18 HI 8 Jun; 18 Canastota 31 Aug.

Swamp Sparrow: max 14 CM 9 Jun; 12 Tully

Marsh 21 Jun.

White-throated Sparrow: max 7 RPPB 20 Jun; 5 T of Ohio 25 Jun.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 10 GLSP 5 Jun & Pratt Falls County Park 9 Jun; ad feeding cowbird SFNS 22 Jul; nest on man-made shelf on Clinton residence, unusual.

Scarlet Tanager: max 6 WH 4 Jul; 5 SFNS 22 Jun.

N. Cardinal: max 9 CM 28 Aug; 8 SFNS 22 Jun; 8 Erieville 3 Jul.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 6 Erieville 16 Aug; also 6 Whitestown 14 Jun; 5 CM 9 Jun.

Indigo Bunting: max 8 Pratt Falls County Park 9 Jun; 4 BLNC 10 Jun.

Bobolink: max 40 Canastota 31 Aug; 25 Verona 15 Jun; 22 Tully 14 Jul.

Red-winged Blackbird: max 500 CM 27 Aug; also 500 TR 28 Aug.

E. Meadowlark: max 6 FH 12 Jun; 5 West Monroe 29 Jun; 4 Verona 9 Jun; generally low numbers.

Com. Grackle: max 600 TR WMA 30 Aug; 500 HI 25 Aug.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 57 Cicero 31 Aug; 26 Whitestown 26 Aug.

Orchard Oriole: max 4 GLSP 18-29 Jun (GC); 2 Bville 1 Jul; no reports east of OneiL.

Baltimore Oriole: max 7 HI 17 Jun; 6 VBSP 15 Jun; 6 GB 23 Jun; 6 Camillus 23 Jul; low numbers in some areas.

Purple Finch: max 19 Dolgeville 29 Aug; mostly singles seen outside of HERK.

House Finch: max 15 Oswego 5 Jul; 10 New Woodstock 1 Jul; 8 N Syr 8 Aug.

Red Crossbill: 2 SH 19 Aug (SH), only report.

Pine Siskin: pr SH 6 Jun (LS), confirmed breeding.

Am. Goldfinch: max 37 Cicero 8 Aug; 30 Oswego 5 Jul; 21 GLSP 5 Jul.

Evening Grosbeak: 2 Ava 13 Jun; 2 Cold Brook 18 Jun; pr w yng SH 10 Jul (LS); only reports.

House Sparrow: max 80 Cicero 7 Aug; 27 Syr 5 Aug.

EXOTICS

Ruddy Shelduck: OnonL 30 Jun (MS); Otisco Lake 12 Aug (KB); presumed escapes.



REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

Jeffrey S. Bolsinger

98 State Street, Canton NY 13617

jsbolsinger@yahoo.com

The first of June was very warm in Watertown, with a temperature of 88° F, but this was not typical of the month, as the mean temperature was just 65.0°, nearly one degree below normal. June was exceptionally wet, with 6.5" of precipitation, a full three inches above normal. July was warmer and drier, with a mean temperature that was 2.7° above normal and precipitation that was 1.4" below normal. August was 0.7° cooler than normal, with slightly less precipitation than usual.

Water levels on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River were already high to begin the season, and June's rain raised them even higher. High water persisted throughout the summer, leaving little exposed shoreline for shorebirds, and there was some anecdotal evidence suggesting that many loon and other waterbird nests were flooded out. Most visits to El Dorado and other Lake Ontario shorebird spots yielded few to no migratory shorebirds, but the season's shorebird list was surprisingly diverse given the low numbers. Notable shorebirds included 53 Whimbrel Gerry Smith saw in a single flock off Pillar Point on 22 July, American Golden-Plover and Baird's Sandpiper on Fort Drum on 30 August, and a Red-necked Phalarope at the Canton Sewage Ponds for the third consecutive year.

Given the high water it was no surprise that Tony Shrimpton saw few shorebirds at El Dorado on a 1 June visit, but the **Tricolored Heron** he observed and photographed was the rarest bird of the season. Runner-up was an **American White Pelican** that soared over Gerry Smith's house in Lewis County on 4 July. Noteworthy among other waterbirds was the abandonment by Great Egrets of a late summer roost site in St. Lawrence County used by 150 or more individuals annually for many years. The reason that the egrets failed to appear at this roost in 2013 is unclear but may have been related to low water levels in the swamp where the site was located. Small numbers of egrets were observed at other swamps in the area throughout the summer, but not in anything resembling the numbers that typically roosted in Winthrop.

Common Tern nests were found at fewer St. Lawrence River colonies than last year, but perhaps more importantly productivity was half that seen in 2012. Predation was a major factor in nest losses, with Great Horned Owls and Peregrine Falcons taking many birds. The owls have been depredating tern nests for years, but Peregrine Falcons have only recently begun nesting on the St. Lawrence River, so represent a new threat to river tern colonies. Twenty Common Tern nests on Little Galloo Island were the first documented there in recent history, but most of these nests failed. Nearly 500 fewer Caspian Tern nests were counted at Little Galloo Island compared to last year, with no obvious reason for the decline, unless it is somehow related to the record high

number of Herring Gull nests recorded on the island in 2013. Black Terns were observed in typical numbers at Perch River and Upper and Lower Lakes WMAs and Wilson Bay marsh, the main nesting locations in Region 6.

Jacob Berl conducted the second and last year of his graduate research project studying Red-headed Woodpeckers on Fort Drum. Jacob found 11 territories compared with 15 last year, the lower number perhaps a consequence of very poor productivity in 2012. Last year's low nest success resulted primarily from predation, but predation was low in 2013, and nest success and productivity was much better. Jacob was never able to determine the identity of the nest raiders last year, but his suspicion that they were squirrels seems bolstered by the coincidence this year of a massive acorn crop and very little predation. At least three pairs of Red-headed Woodpeckers raised two broods in 2013, something that had never been documented on Fort Drum before.

Among the most interesting and under-birded portions of Region 6 is an area stretching from the Indian River Lakes at the boundary of Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties eastward to Dekalb. Numerous rocky, wooded ridges and narrow valleys holding wet meadows with shrubby margins characterize this area, which is referred to by geologists as the Northwest Adirondack Lowlands, although it lies well outside the blue line. These ridges are home to the majority of Cerulean Warblers in Region 6, and in 2013 was the only area in the Region where Yellow-billed Cuckoos were found. Perhaps the greatest avian significance of this area is that Golden-winged Warblers persist in high numbers with few Blue-winged Warblers or hybrids. Observations from 2013 and previous years indicate that Golden-winged Warblers far outnumber Blue-winged Warblers and hybrids here. By contrast, to the south and west from Fort Drum to the alvar of northern Jefferson County, Blue-winged Warblers now clearly outnumber Golden-winged Warblers, and hybrids are numerous as well. Portions of the St. Lawrence valley to the north and west still have few Blue-winged Warblers, but hybrids occur at about a 1:1 ratio with Golden-winged Warblers. It is becoming increasingly apparent that this landscape of ridges and valleys represents the best opportunity for Golden-winged Warblers to persist in northern New York over the long term.

The Jefferson County Henslow's Sparrow population has declined precipitously during the past two decades, especially since 2000, but there was finally an encouraging development regarding the continued existence of the species in Region 6. For the past few years several private fields in the county have been managed for grassland birds under a landowner incentive program run by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and for the first time Henslow's Sparrows were documented in three of these fields, with a maximum of 10-12 males in one field. Although apparently absent in May, at least two Henslow's Sparrows showed up on Dog Hill Road at Perch River WMA in June, two were on nearby Tubelino Road in Clayton, and at least 6 and as many as 12 were on Fort Drum. The actual number of males present on Fort Drum was difficult to determine because males were found singing from some locations for very brief periods of time, sometimes just a single day, and only six males were found consistently in the same location for more than two

weeks. All of these locations together amount to the highest Henslow's Sparrow tally recorded in Jefferson County in several years.

Among other grassland birds, Upland Sandpipers were found in modestly higher numbers than during the past couple of years, almost certainly because of numerous visits to Jefferson County by out-of-region birders specifically targeting grassland birds. Still, Upland Sandpiper requires far more effort to find in Jefferson County than it did prior to about 2000, and as usual went unreported in Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties, although this absence of sightings in the latter counties may reflect low observer effort as much as an absence of birds. At least 22 Sedge Wrens were reported, about 70% on Fort Drum, where this year's tally of 15 singing males was about average. Fort Drum also had a one-day high count of 26 singing male Vesper Sparrows, but this represents only a small percentage of the total number of Vesper Sparrows nesting on the military installation.

Other songbirds worth noting include continued evidence that Orchard Orioles are increasing as breeders in Region 6, as this species is now well established on Point Peninsula and at Perch River WMA and probably elsewhere in Jefferson County. Northern finches were barely detected this summer, with just one each report of Pine Siskin and White-winged Crossbill. A Connecticut Warbler in Canton on 31 August was probably the rarest passerine of the season.

There was some discussion throughout the summer that songbird numbers were unusually low throughout the Region, with some evidence to support this contention at least locally or for some species. For instance the Breeding Bird Survey route I have run in St. Lawrence County for eight years had about 10% fewer birds than my previous low year. Other birders reported similar low tallies, especially from the Adirondacks. Among individual species, Baltimore Oriole numbers were most conspicuously low, and this species was astonishingly difficult to find in many places. More typically, many species seemed to be scarce in some areas but present in average numbers elsewhere, and it is not clear to me just how extensive this lack of birds really was.

For the season I received reports of an even 200 species, a tally that is about average but was lower than it could have been as several breeding species with limited distributions went unreported, including Louisiana Waterthrush and Hooded Warbler. To me the highlight of the season was the apparent increase in Henslow's Sparrow territories, but the rarity of the season was certainly the Tricolored Heron found by Tony Shrimpton. Unfortunately, as so often happens with rarities in Region 6, only a single observer was able to see this bird.

CONTRIBUTORS

Jacob Berl, Jeff Bolsinger, Brent Bomkamp, Richard & Marion Brouse, Bernie Carr, Carol Cady, Kelly Close, Joan Collins, Caitlin Conn, Mary Curtis, Gregg Dashnau, Doug Emlin, Lee Harper, Joan Howlett, Steve Kelling, John Kent, Tom Langen, Nick Leone, Patricia Lindsay, Irene Mazzocchi, Shai Mitra, Bill Purcell, Derek Rogers, Gloria Sage, Glenn Seeholzer, Tony Shrimpton, Gerry

Smith, Thomas Smith, Jacob Socolar, Andrew VanNorstrand, John Young, Mary Beth Warburton, Tom & Eileen Wheeler.

ABBREVIATIONS

AFWMA – Ashland Flats WMA; BI – Barnhart Island, T Massena; CV – T Cape Vincent; CWF – Canton wastewater facility; ED – El Dorado Shores Preserve, T Ellisburg; FD – Fort Drum Military Reservation; ICNC – Indian Creek Nature Center, T Canton; LGI – Little Galloo Island; LWMA – Lakeview WMA, T Ellisburg; MM – Massawepie Mire, T Piercefield and Colton; PilPt – Pillar Point; PRGC – Partridge Run Golf Course trail, T Canton; PRWMA – Perch River WMA; RWSP – Robert G. Wehle SP; SLGW – St. Lawrence Grasslands & Wetlands Management District refuge and headquarters, T Dekalb; SLR – St. Lawrence River; StPt – Stony Point; ULLWMA – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; WHWMA – Wilson Hill WMA; WS – Winthrop Swamp, T Stockholm; WISP—Wellesley Island SP.

WHISTLING-DUCKS—VULTURES

Snow Goose: Brownville 13 Jun (NL); Lyme 26-27 Jun (NL).
Trumpeter Swan: prob nesting ULLWMA.
Wood Duck: max 218 WHWMA 18 Aug.
Am. Wigeon: 2 PRWMA 29 Jun, only report before Aug.
Gadwall: 2 PRWMA 1 Jun; 2 AFWMA 14 Jun; only reports.
Am. Black Duck: about 12 reports 1-4.
Blue-winged Teal: max 17 CWF 30 Aug.
Green-winged Teal: max 6 AFWMA 14 Jun.
Redhead: max 15 WHWMA 17 Aug.
Ring-necked Duck: max 66 ULLWMA 31 Aug.
Greater Scaup: f PRWMA 9 Jun (NL), rare in summer.
Com. Merganser: max 7 ED 25 Aug.
Ruffed Grouse: few broods reported.
Com. Loon: no y reported from several lakes where nests presumably flooded.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 55 ULLWMA 31 Aug.
Double-crested Cormorant: 2387 nests LGI.
AM. WHITE PELICAN: soaring over Barnes Corners 4 Jul (GS!).
Am. Bittern: max 9 AFWMA 18 Aug.
Least Bittern: Hammond 9 Jun; Eel Pd Rd T Stockholm 23 Jun; SLGW 24 Jun; Porter Lynch Rd T Stockholm 28 Jul; multiple reports PRWMA & ULLWMA.
Great Egret: WS late summer roost used annually since at least 1987 abandoned; up to 8/day Massena Jul & Aug, *intro*.
TRICOLORED HERON: ED 1 Jun (TS, ph!).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 56 nests Gull Is; 40 nests Murphy Is.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Com. Gallinule: 9 Hayden Rd T Dekalb 12 Jul; 9 CR 17 Dekalb 30 Jul; highest counts away from PRWMA where 5-10+/day thru.
Am. Coot: LWMA 25 Jun; 3 PRWMA 29 Jun; only reports.
Sandhill Crane: pr w colt LWMA 5 Jul (GS).
Black-bellied Plover: 2 StPt 31 Aug, only report.
Am. Golden-Plover: 2+ FD 30 Aug.
Semipalmated Plover: max 2 StPt 31 Aug; singles CWF, PRWMA, T Gouverneur only other reports.
Killdeer: max 26 Lyme 22 Aug.
Spotted Sandpiper: max 14 CWF 16 Aug included nearly pure white ind.
Solitary Sandpiper: arr Dekalb 4 Jul.
Greater Yellowlegs: arr Dekalb 7 Jul.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 9 CWF 12 Aug.
Upland Sandpiper: possibly different ind Clayton 1 Jun (BB) & 3 Jul (AV); 4-5 pr FD Jun (JB); Lyme 7 Jun (NL); CV 9 Jun (NL); Hounsfield 5 Jul (TS); max 16 at traditional FD mid-summer gathering site 18 Jul.
Whimbrel: 53 PilPt 22 Jul (GS).
Ruddy Turnstone: SLR Massena 2 Jun, only report.
Sanderling: 12 T Ellisburg 27 Jul, only report.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: 1-2/day CWF 12-25 Aug; ED 16 Aug; only reports.
Least Sandpiper: max 31 CWF 16 Aug.
Baird's Sandpiper: FD 30 Aug (JB).
Pectoral Sandpiper: Dekalb 30 Jul, only report.

Red-necked Phalarope: juv CWF 19-20 Aug (JB, EW).

Bonaparte's Gull: arr Ellisburg 27 Jul.

Herring Gull: 645 nests LGI, record high.

Com. Tern: 1127 nests at 14 sites SLR where productivity only half that of 2012 (LH); 20 nests LGI where nesting has not been documented in recent decades.

Caspian Tern: 1848 nests LGI down from 2332 in 2012.

Black Tern: 40+/day PRWMA & ULLWMA Jun & Jul; 20 Wilson Bay marsh 28 Jun; 2 AFWMA 4 Jul; 46 near Horse Is 14 Aug after most departed nesting locations.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 6 reports Adirondack Lowlands W STLA Jun & Jul; no other reports.

Black-billed Cuckoo: modest increase from 2012; most abundant in Adirondack Lowlands. E. **Screech-Owl:** Dekalb 18 Jun, only report away from L Ontario.

N. **Saw-whet Owl:** Dekalb 24 Jun, only report.

Com. Nighthawk: 4-10/day FD thru; not reported elsewhere until modest movement late Aug.

E. **Whip-poor-will:** max 36 on 10-stop survey route FD.

Red-headed Woodpecker: 11 pr FD where nest success high and at least 3 pr raised 2 broods.

Merlin: confirmed nest in CV.

Peregrine Falcon: Payne L nest fledged 4 y; Ogdensburg Bridge nest failed; terr pr BI; PRWMA 20 & 24 Aug.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: only 5 reports Adirondack breeding sites likely reflecting low observer effort; migrants Hammond 24 Aug, FD 28 Aug.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last northbound migrant FD 6 Jun.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr Hammond 24 Aug.

Sedge Wren: 2 Hammond 5 Jun (NL); 5 males FD early Jun increased to 15 by early Jul (JB); Dekalb 16 Jun (JB); 2 LWMA 25 Jun (CC); Hyde L 5 Aug (KC); Potsdam 25 Aug (MBW).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 9 reports from Lake Ontario Plain and St. Lawrence Valley.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 2 Canton Norway spruce plantation 26 Jul, only report outside Adirondacks & Tug Hill.

N. **Mockingbird:** Wanakena yard T Fine 29 Jun, rare in Adirondacks (BC); only 2 ad FD where 9 terr in 2012.

Swainson's Thrush: no reports outside Adirondacks.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Louisiana Waterthrush: no reports likely reflecting low observer effort LEWI where most occur R6.

Golden-winged Warbler: continuing to decline relative to Blue-winged Warblers FD; most abundant Indian River Lakes E to Dekalb, *intro.*

Blue-winged Warbler: continuing to increase FD and S & central JEFF; scarce from Indian River Lakes N & E.

Golden-winged X Blue-winged Warbler hybrid: approximately 50% of all winged warblers much of St. Lawrence Valley.

Tennessee Warbler: arr FD 21 Aug; max 10 Hammond 24 Aug.

Connecticut Warbler: PRGC 31 Aug (JB), rare.

Mourning Warbler: max 12 singing male on 24 3-min counts Tooley Pond Rd STLA 30 Jun.

Cape May Warbler: arr Hammond 24 Aug; max 9 PRGC 31 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: 4 Long Pond T Croghan 6 Jul (MR); 10 along ridges S Black L Jun & Jul.

N. **Parula:** no reports outside Adirondacks.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr FD 27 Aug.

Blackburnian Warbler: max 13 singing m Tooley Pond Rd STLA 30 Jun.

Blackpoll Warbler: Jordan R T Colton, only report (JS).

Palm Warbler: nesting reports from 5 STLA bogs & fens.

Prairie Warbler: max 6 Limerick Cedars 9 Jul.

Canada Warbler: max 9 FD 6 Jun.

Wilson's Warbler: last northbound migrant ICNC 2 Jun; arr RWSP 24 Aug.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Clay-colored Sparrow: Grant Road CV 5 Jun; Swamp Road CV 20 Jun; 4 Butterville Rd Henderson Jul; max 24 singing in FD 9 Jul.

Vesper Sparrow: max 26 FD 23 Jul; singles Dog Hill Rd T Orleans 4 Jul (BP) & Johnson Rd T Canton 26 Jul (JB), only reports off FD. **Grasshopper Sparrow:** max 20 FD 22 Jun; 7 reports elsewhere N JEFF.

Henslow's Sparrow: 6-12 terr FD Jun & Jul; 2 arr PRWMA early Jun; 2 Tubelino Rd Clayton early Jun; 15+ in 3 JEFF farm fields enrolled in NYSDEC landowner incentive program. *intro.*

Lincoln's Sparrow: max 12 MM 2 Jun.

Dark-eyed Junco: CV 1 Jun; WISP 14 Jun; 2 PRWMA 27 Jul; only reports outside Adirondacks & Tug Hill.

Bobolink: pre-migratory flocks 50-75 ind FD by 11 Jul.

Orchard Oriole: max 3 PRWMA 15 Jun, where apparently established breeder (JY); Lyme 15 Jul (NL); sev reports PtPen where nesting 1st recorded R6.

Baltimore Oriole: much less common than usual.

White-winged Crossbill: FD 5 Jul, only report.

Pine Siskin: 2 Hopkinton 8 Aug, only report.



REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

Melanie McCormack

PO Box 366, Keene, NY 12942

Mruddyduck@aol.com

The summer of 2013 in the Region was much wetter and cooler than the previous summer season. The season began with the wettest June in recorded history, with precipitation totals more than 200% above normal. Dannemora received 12" of rain in June, which is a record-breaking 8.5" above normal. Lake Placid received 5" more rain than usual with 9.6" for the month. The month began with record high temperatures of 87° F in Tupper Lake and 91° in Peru on the 1st, but they didn't last. The remainder of the month was much cooler than average, resulting in monthly average temperatures about 1° below normal across the Region. June's rain continued into early July, making the Region's residents wonder if it would rain the entire summer. The weather finally broke, however, and July ended up being a fairly average month, with temperatures and precipitation just above average. Temperatures peaked on July 19th and 20th, reaching 89° in Lake Placid and 92° in Peru. Just a few nights later temperatures dipped to 39° in Lake Placid and 40s in the rest of the Region. August was also a typical month, with average precipitation and temperatures 1-2° below average. The highest temperatures came at the very end of the month, reaching 82° in Tupper Lake and 87° in Peru. The lowest temperatures occurred on the 25th, with 38° in Lake Placid and 46° in Peru.

Record-breaking amounts of rain certainly hampered a number of outdoor activities and dismayed the Region's residents, but in the natural world the rain was very beneficial to wildlife. The record-breaking rain resulted in record-breaking numbers of berries, wildflowers, aquatic-borne insects, and a high mast crop, creating abundant food resources for wildlife this year. From my own observations and those of other researchers in the area, nesting success for many songbirds was better than last year when a dry summer made resources scarce. One can only hope that higher rates of nesting success will result in an excellent fall migration this year.

The high amounts of rain created excellent conditions for paddling this summer, and many reports were received from paddling birders. Paddles of Scomotion Creek in Plattsburgh yielded reports of five Black-crowned Night-

Heron on 15 June, 30 Marsh Wrens on 6 July, and five Green Herons on 23 August. A paddle on the Chubb River on 18 August yielded a report of a Least Bittern, an excellent find. Other notable waterbird reports include Virginia Rails in Tupper Lake and Oseetah Lake, and a Sora at the Chazy Riverlands. A drake Greater Scaup was seen at Cumberland Head on 7 and 9 June, and an early Horned Grebe was seen in Westport on 17 August. A report of two Sandhill Cranes was received from Rouses Point in mid-August, near the same site they were sighted in 2011.

Shorebird migration was well documented by observers at the Chazy Riverlands and other sites this season. The highlight was sightings of juvenile Red-necked Phalaropes at the Riverlands on the 17th and 19th of August. Between the 21st and 25th there were reports of Western, Baird's, Pectoral, and Stilt Sandpipers, all good finds. A White-rumped Sandpiper was reported from Inlet on 15 August, only the fourth record for Hamilton County. Both yellowlegs species and Least Sandpipers were reported at Noblewood Park as well.

Many of the Region's boreal specialties, such as Boreal Chickadee, Gray Jay, and Black-backed Woodpecker were widely reported from places such as Bloomingdale Bog, Ferd's Bog, and Moose River Plains. Olive-sided Flycatchers were reported from Ferd's Bog, California Road, and Elk Lake but were not reported from places such as Bloomingdale Bog and Silver Lake Bog, where they used to be regularly found. There was only one report of Spruce Grouse, seen on private property on Kildare Road on 2 July. Similarly there was only one report of Rusty Blackbirds during breeding season from Ferd's Bog, but migrating flocks were reported in August from Elizabethtown and Bloomingdale Bog. Bicknell's Thrush was widely reported from high-elevation summits in the Adirondacks, with the highest number being 20 birds at Whiteface Mt. on 13 June. Other notable songbird reports from the Region include a Yellow-billed Cuckoo at Reagan Flatts Rd. on 18 July, 12 Whip-poor-wills at Miner Flat Rock on 23 June, and a Blue-winged Warbler in Essex on 14 June.

I also received a number of reports from researchers who were working in the Region this season, whose efforts I think are worth recognizing. Licensed bander Gary Lee in Inlet banded songbirds throughout the season including 22 Purple Finches. Gary Lee also works with the Adirondack Cooperative Loon Program, which, in addition to its usual banding efforts of Common Loons, attached three geolocators to Adirondack loons this year. If the loons return to the same nest site next year these geolocators will reveal where these loons spend all of their time when they are not on Adirondack lakes. I also received a report from licensed banders Bob Yunick and Ted Hicks who spent time this summer banding Ruby-throated Hummingbirds in Schroon Lake. They were very successful, banding 137 birds this year and recapturing 28 birds that they banded last year. I personally had no idea that so many hummingbirds could be in one location.

In all a total of 185 species was reported this season, the same number as in the 2012 season and shy of the record of 196 species.

CONTRIBUTORS

Ken Adams, Zachary Adams, Danny Akers, Deidre Asbjorn, Scott Barnes, Alan Belford, Michelle Berrus, Michael Burgess, Chase Cammarota, Ken Chaisson, Gary Chapin, Eric Damour, Gregg Dashnau, Jim de Waal Malefyt, Joe Demko, Gordon Dimmig, Bruce Dudek, Suzy Feustel, Walter Favro, Wayne Fidler, Kenny Frisch, Matthew Furst, Menachem Goldstein, Sam Heinrich, Judith Heintz, Ted Hicks, Jon Isacoff, Betsy Jensen, Peter Jerdo, Dave Kaddie, Bill Krueger, Gary Lee, Lewis Lolya, Larry Master, Brian McAllister, Matthew Medler, Sean O'Brien, Nancy Olsen, Shai Mitra, John "Mike" and Susan Peterson, Justin Potter, Bill Purcell, Derek Rogers, Nancy Rogers, Dana Rohleder, Robert Scranton, John Shea, Jake Straub, Madelaine Sullivan, John & Pat Thaxton, Hans Van der Zweep, Ken Walsh, Bob Washburn, Robert G Williams III, David Winkler, Chris Wood, Bob Yunick, Matthew Zeitler, Janice Zemko.

ABBREVIATIONS

AM – Alderon Marsh; AP – Ausable Point; BB – Bloomingdale Bog; BC – Belmont Center; CH – Cumberland Head; CR – Chazy Riverlands; CRF – Cedar River Flow; DC – Dickinson Center; FB – Ferd's Bog; IL – Intervale Lowlands; MRP – Moose River Plains; NP – Noblewood Park; PS – Paul Smiths; PtR – Point Au Roche SP; RFR – Reagan Flats Road; SB – Sabattis Bog; SC – Scotion Creek; SL – Saranac Lake; SPB – Spring Pond Bog; SSP – Shingle Shanty Preserve; WF – Whiteface Mountain; WRS – Webb Royce Swamp.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Wood Duck: max 25 AP 19 Aug (BJ).
Gadwall: AP 20 Jul (MMe); CR 17 & 25 Aug (MMe, AB).
Am. Black Duck: max 14 Osgood R 1 Jul (DRg).
Blue-winged Teal: 2 CR 17 Aug (AB, SO, MMe).
Green-winged Teal: 2 CR 17 Aug (AB, SO, MMe).
Ring-necked Duck: max 7 Muskrat Pond 20 Jul (GL); 6 Oseetah L 5 Jun (GDi).
Greater Scaup: CH 7-9 Jun (SJ, BK).
Com. Goldeneye: max 8 AP 19 Aug (BJ).
Hooded Merganser: max 5 SSP 20 Jul (JP).
Spruce Grouse: Kildare Rd 2 Jul (GDi), only report.
Com. Loon: max 17 Follensby Clear Pond loop 6 Jul.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 14 CRF 19 Jul (BD).
Horned Grebe: Westport 17 Aug (AB, MMe).
Am. Bittern: max 4 CR 25 Aug (AB).
Least Bittern: Chubb R 18 Aug (J&PT).

Great Egret: 3 RFR 5 Jul (DK,RS); CR 26-28 Aug (BK); 3 AM 27 Aug (MF, ZA, LL).
Green Heron: max 5 SC 23 Aug (NO).
Black-crowned Night-Heron: 5 SC 15 Jun (NO); 2 CR 17 Aug; 5 AM 27 Aug.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: max 10 AP 20 Jul (MMe).
N. Harrier: max 3 RFR 18 Jul (RS).
N. Goshawk: max 2 DC 20 Jun (HVZ, RS).
Red-shouldered Hawk: Jay 30 Jun (PJ); 2 Port Kent 11-12 Aug (DaR); Chubb R 28 Aug (J&PT).
Broad-winged Hawk: max 5 FB 28 Jun (SH).
Virginia Rail: TL 2 Jun (SK, JZ); CR 5 Jun-31 Jul (BK); Oseetah L 5 Aug (GDi); AP 19 Aug (BJ).
Sora: CR 25 Jun-31 Jul (BK).
Com. Gallinule: max 6 AM 27 Aug (BS, ZA, MF, LL).
Am. Coot: 2 CR 17 & 25 Aug (AB, MMe).
SANDHILL CRANE (R7): 2 Rouses Pt 13 Aug (WFA).

Black-bellied Plover: 2 CR 5 Jun (BK); 2 CR 31 Jul (BK); CR 24 Aug (MMc, ED).
Semipalmated Plover: CR 17-25 Aug; max 16 CR 21 Aug (BK); 6 NP 23 Aug (LLe).
Spotted Sandpiper: max 3 Oseetah L 5 Aug (GDi).
Solitary Sandpiper: 2 CR 5 Jun (BK); IL 21 Jul (LM); 5 BC 5-31 Aug (NR).
Greater Yellowlegs: CR 5-24 Aug; max 10 CR 17 Aug; 2 NP 17 Aug (MMe); 5 BC 29-31 Aug (NR).
Lesser Yellowlegs: 2 BC 16-28 Aug (NR); CR 5-24 Aug; max 20 CR 17 Aug; NP 19-24 Aug.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 20 CR 24 Aug (MMc, ED); 7 BC 23 Aug (NR).
Western Sandpiper: 3 CR 24 Aug (BK, MMc, ED).
Least Sandpiper: CR 5-28 Aug; max 37 CR 20 Aug (BK); 4 NP 17 Aug (MMe); 15 BC 24 Aug (NR).
White-rumped Sandpiper: Inlet 15 Aug (GL), 4th rec HAMI; 12 CR 21-22 Aug (BK).
Baird's Sandpiper: 2 CR 21-25 Aug (BK, AB, MMc, ED).
Pectoral Sandpiper: CR 20-25 Aug (BK, AB).
Dunlin: CR 25 Aug (AB), early rec CLIN.
Stilt Sandpiper: CR 20-24 Aug (BK).
Wilson's Snipe: max 4 DC 4 Jun (RS).
Am. Woodcock: max 3 Raquette L 28 Jul (RGW).
Red-necked Phalarope: juv CR 17 Aug (AB, SO, MMe); 2 juv CR 19 Aug (BL).
Bonaparte's Gull: NP 16-19 Aug; max 291 NP 18 Aug (MMe).
Caspian Tern: max 21 NP 4 Aug (MMc, ED); 5 CR 17 Aug; 6 AP 19 Aug.
Com. Tern: 2 RFR 5 Jul (DK, RS); max 7 NP 17 Aug (MMe).

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Black-billed Cuckoo: BC 26-31 Jul; Loon L 6 Aug; BB 7 Aug; WRS 16-17 Aug.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: RFR 18 Jul (HVZ, RS).
Great Horned Owl: IL 1 Jun; SB 1 Jun; RFR 22 Jul.
N. Saw-whet Owl: SB 1 Jun (BW); Willis L 10 Aug (KC).
Com. Nighthawk: 3 L Pleasant 17 Aug; 2 SL 27 Aug (AB).
E. Whip-poor-will: 12 Miner Flat Rock 23 Jun (KA); 2 Clarojast 17 Jun (JH); Wilsboro 19 Jul.
Chimney Swift: max 129 St Regis Falls 8 Aug (BP).
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 137 banded 21 Jun-25 Aug Schroom L (BY, TH).
Belted Kingfisher: max 8 Raquette R 20 Aug (J&PT).

Red-bellied Woodpecker: Ft Ticonderoga 15 Aug (MMe).
Black-backed Woodpecker: BB thru; max 4 BB 9 Jun; MRP 19 Jun, 3 Osgood R 1 Jul; CRF 17 Jul; Raquette R 20 Aug; 2 Long L 27 Aug.
Am. Kestrel: max 5 RFR 18 Jul (HVZ).
Merlin: max 4 Plattsburgh 17 Jul (NO).
Peregrine Falcon: Poke-O-Moonshine 25-29 Jul; CR 17-25 Aug.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 2 FB 3-26 Jun; Elk L 21 Jul; max 4 California Rd 26 Jun (JS).
E. Wood-Pewee: max 4 Schroom L 2 Jul (JI).
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Silver L Bog 11 Jul (SF); WF 30 Jul.
Alder Flycatcher: max 10 IL 2 Jun (LM).
Willow Flycatcher: Rugar Woods 10 Jun (NO); Essex 14 Jun; Elk L 21 Jul.
Least Flycatcher: max 6 Indian L 17 Jun.
Great Crested Flycatcher: max 3 RFR 5 Jul (DK, RS).
E. Kingbird: max 16 RFR 18 Jul (HVZ, RS).
Blue-headed Vireo: max 9 Blue Mt 19 Jun (DA).
Warbling Vireo: max 4 DC 4 Jun.
Philadelphia Vireo: max 2 Raquette R 20 Aug (J&PT).
Red-eyed Vireo: max 26 Blue Mt 19 Jun.
Gray Jay: 8 BB thru; 5 SPB 15 Jul; CRF 17 Jul; max 9 Blue Mt 31 Aug.
Purple Martin: PtR 6 Aug (NR).
N. Rough-winged Swallow: IL 2 Jun (LM); CR 25 Aug (AB).
Bank Swallow: Port Kent 26 Jul; Ft Ticonderoga 15 Aug; max 100 CR 22 Aug (BK).
Cliff Swallow: 16 SL 1 Jun (BW); max 25 RFR 4 Jul (HVZ, RS); Crown Pt 10 Aug (GC).
Boreal Chickadee: 5 Kildare Rd 12 Jul; 5 CRF 19 Jul; 5 Madawaska 31 Jul; max 8 MRP 29 Aug.
Tufted Titmouse: 2 NP 17 Aug; Long L 24 Aug.
Carolina Wren: CH thru; Ft Ticonderoga 31 Jul; 2 Wilsboro 18 Aug.
Winter Wren: max 15 WF 3 Jul.
Marsh Wren: max 30 SC 6 Jul (NO).
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 20 Blue Mt 19 Jun.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 8 BB 19-20 Jun.
E. Bluebird: max 9 Peru 2 Jul.
Veery: max 6 BB 4 Jun; 5 IL 9 Jun.
Bicknell's Thrush: 4 Big Slide Mt 19 Jun; 4 Algonquin Mt 5 Jul; max 20 WF 13 Jun (MG); 2 Saddleback Mt 12 Jul.

Swainson's Thrush: max 23 Algonquin Mt 5 Jul; 20 WF 13 Jun.

Hermit Thrush: max 10 BB 20 Jun.

Wood Thrush: BB 7-8 Jun; 2 RFR 18 Jul; Keene Valley 22 Jul.

Gray Catbird: max 10 Schroon L 1 Jul.

N. Mockingbird: Plattsburgh thru (NO), only report.

Brown Thrasher: IL 1 & 16 Jul LM); 2 RFR 18 Jul (HVZ, RS).

Cedar Waxwing: max 50 BC 23 Aug (NR).

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Ovenbird: max 15 Schroon L 2 Jul (JI).

N. Waterthrush: 2 Blue Mt 16 Jun; 2

California Rd 26 Jun; 2 BB 7 Jul.

Blue-winged Warbler: Essex 14 Jun (BM).

Tennessee Warbler: 2 FB 18 Aug (MMA, RD, WF); SL 26 Aug (AB).

Nashville Warbler: max 21 SPB 15 Jul (SM).

Com. Yellowthroat: max 15 CRF 19 Jul (BD).

Am. Redstart: max 10 Indian L 17 Jun (JSo).

Cape May Warbler: IL 1 Jun (LM); SL 30 Aug (AB).

N. Parula: max 9 Algonquin Mt 5 Jul (CC).

Magnolia Warbler: max 18 IL 21 Jul (LM).

Bay-breasted Warbler: IL 31 Jul (J&PT); FB 18 Aug (MMA, WF).

Blackburnian Warbler: max 9 Giant Mt 6 Jul (CB).

Yellow Warbler: max 14 RFR 4 Jun (RS).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: max 9 WF 13 Jun; 9 IL 21 Jul.

Blackpoll Warbler: 12 WF 13 Jun (MG); max 24 Blue Mt 19 Jun (DA); 19 Algonquin Mt 5 Jul (CC).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: max 20 Algonquin Mt 5 Jul (CC).

Palm Warbler: 4 PS 1 Jun; max 14 BB 13 Jun (MG); 8 Osgood R 4 Jul.

Pine Warbler: max 5 Kildare Rd 7 Jul (SF).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 15 Squaw L 13 Aug (GDa).

Black-throated Green Warbler: max 14 Giant Mt 6 Jul (CB).

Canada Warbler: max 4 SLB 11 Jul (SF); 4 Squaw L 13 Aug (GDa).

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: max 3 DC 4 Jun (RS); Altona 12 Jun (JSt).

Chipping Sparrow: max 20 Schroon L 2 Jul.

Field Sparrow: 2 BB 15 Jul; OK Slip Pond 25 Jul.

Vesper Sparrow: 4 RFR 18 Jul (HVZ, RS).

Savannah Sparrow: max 10 Keene Valley 3 Jul (JI).

Song Sparrow: max 16 IL 1 Jun (LM).

Lincoln's Sparrow: 3 IL 2 Jun; Oseetah L 5 Jun; BB 14 Jun; max 5 FB 26 Jun.

Swamp Sparrow: max 15 AM 27 Aug.

White-throated Sparrow: max 20 Algonquin Mt 5 Jul.

Dark-eyed Junco: max 22 Blue Mt 19 Jun.

Scarlet Tanager: max 4 Willis Pond Rd 12 Jul (SF).

N. Cardinal: 2 Raquette L 28 Jul (RGW).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 6 RFR 28 Aug (HVZ, RS).

Indigo Bunting: max 25 WRS 17 Aug (AB, MMe).

Bobolink: max 30 DC 4 Jun (RS); 28 Ft Ticonderoga 15 Aug; 25 CR 18 Aug.

E. Meadowlark: max 8 RFR 5 Jul (HVS, RS).

Rusty Blackbird: FB 8 Jun; 15 Elizabethtown 20 Aug (M&SP); 19 BB 27 Aug (AB).

Com. Grackle: max 20 RFR 4 Jul; 16 IL 21 Jul.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 20 Essex 21 Jun.

Baltimore Oriole: 4 DC 4 Jun (RS); 3 AM 19 Jun.

Pine Grosbeak: CRF 17 Jul (GL).

Purple Finch: 22 banded Inlet 24-25 Aug (GL); 10 IL 21 Jul.

Red Crossbill: Inlet 27 Jun; Osgood R 1 Jul; 2 Schroon L 2 Jul; SB 21 Aug.

Pine Siskin: IL 1 Jun & 9 Jul (LM); 2 Big Slide Mt 19 Jun (PJ).

Am. Goldfinch: max 25 RFR 18 Jul.



REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

Will Yandik

269 Schneider Road, Hudson NY 12534

wyandik@hotmail.com

Summer 2013 was overall wetter than average with seasonally average temperatures. June's temperatures were near historic averages but it was very wet, with nearly six inches more rain than average. This June was the third wettest June on record at the National Weather Service in Albany, and localized flooding occurred along the Mohawk River and many smaller streams. July continued wet, ending with 1.27 more inches than average and temperatures 4.1°F above average. August began a cooling trend and ended drier than average, with three-quarters of an inch less rain than average.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that the wet June adversely affected nestling survival for swallows and some cavity nesters. Cone and acorn crops appeared moderate in the northern section of the Region and a very heavy crop of wild grapes, cherry, and apples occurred in the Hudson Valley.

The best bird of the season was a **Little Gull** spotted and photographed by John Hershey at Cohoes Flats in July. John snapped some photos of what he believed was a Bonaparte's Gull and posted them on a Regional listserv, HMBirds. Others who viewed the photograph noticed the bird's white wingtips and much smaller size compared to surrounding Ring-billed Gulls. If accepted by NYSARC, it will be the first record of this species in the Region—no less unusual for appearing in the unlikely month of July.

It has been mentioned to Susan Scheck of Hillsdale, NY, that her lone singing Eastern Whip-poor-will is probably the last bird of its kind in Columbia County. A few remnant populations of whip-poor-will still exist in Saratoga County and reports sometimes surface from Greene and Schoharie, but the long-term prognosis for this species in our Region mirrors statewide and Northeastern declines. Common Nighthawks have also been disappearing from the Region in a well-documented decline over the past half century, which makes the report of 100+ birds flying over the Albany Pine Bush at the end of August heartening. A pair of another declining species, Red-headed Woodpecker, was also found lingering at the Albany Pine Bush during the entire month of August.

Steve Chorvas conducted his annual survey of Plateau Mountain in Greene County, which is often our Region's most detailed report of high elevation breeders, including Bicknell's Thrush. With ideal weather conditions he reported 15 Bicknell's Thrush, 12 Swainson's Thrush, 10 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, 10 Blackpoll Warbler, and a singing male Mourning Warbler. He noted fewer birds than average, including Bicknell's Thrush, despite good census conditions.

Clay-colored Sparrow tops the list of grassland specialists spotted in the productive fields near Root, Montgomery County. Some of our best grassland birds are reported in summer when birders, bored with the solid sameness of

forest breeders, head to these remnant grasslands to drum up the unusual among the quieting buzz of cicadas.

CONTRIBUTORS

Steve Abrahamsen, Alan Devoe Bird Club monthly sighting reports, Larry Alden, Dave Baim, Hope Batchellor, Mona Bearor, Steve Chorvas, Gerry Colborn, Bill Cook, Tim Dormady, Bruce Dudek, Corey Finger, Elizabeth Grace, Jane Graves, Richard Guthrie, Ken Harper, David Harrison, Ron Harrower, John Hershey, Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club's Birdline of Eastern New York, Nancy Kern, Bill Lee, Alan Mapes, Dave Martin, Andrew Mason, Kelly McKay, Roger Miller, Frank Murphy, Gail & Rich Nord, Paul Novak, Tim O'Conner, Mike Peterson, John Piwowarski, Neil Powell, Bill Purcell, Barb Putnam, Bob Ramonowski, Will Raup, Scott Stoner, Bill & Marion Ulmer, Alison Van Keuren, Marlene Vidibor, Carol & Owen Whitby, Phil Whitney, T. Lloyd Williams, Chris Winters, Allan & Phyllis Wirth, Chad Witko, Will Yandik, Robert Yunick.

ABBREVIATIONS

HR – Hudson Ri.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: Glenmont ALBA 7 Jun; New Baltimore GREE 22 Jun; Troy RENS 4 Jul.

Brant: New Baltimore GREE 14 Jun.

Red-throated Loon: Saratoga L SARA 19 Jun (NK).

AM. WHITE PELICAN (R8): Mohawk River Rexford SARA 16-18 Jun.

Am. Bittern: max 4 HR WASH 18 Jun.

Least Bittern: max 2 HR WASH 29 Jun; Hudson COLU 9 Jul.

Great Egret: max 4 Athens GREE 4 Jun.

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 2 Dyken Pd RENS 15 Jun.

Sora: HR WASH 5 Jun.

Com. Gallinule: Oppenheim FULT 5 Jul.

Semipalmated Plover: Cohoes Flats ALBA 30 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper: Colonie ALBA 12 Jul

Lesser Yellowlegs: Colonie ALBA 3 Jul.

Upland Sandpiper: 3 Ames MONT 6 Jun.

Sanderling: Cohoes ALBA 14 Aug.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Cossackie grasslands GREE 22 Jul.

Least Sandpiper: Colonie ALBA 3 Jul.

White-rumped Sandpiper: Cohoes 8 Aug; Scotia SCHE 18 Aug.

Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 Cohoes ALBA 9-19 Aug.

Stilt Sandpiper: Cohoes ALBA 20 Aug.

Bonaparte's Gull: Vischer Ferry Power Plant SARA 19-20 Jul.

LITTLE GULL: Cohoes Flats ALBA 20 Jul (JH), 1st Reg record.

Caspian Tern: Cohoes ALBA 13 Aug.

PIGEONS – PARROTS

N. Saw-whet Owl: Jenny Lake SARA 17 Jul.

Com. Nighthawk: Colonie ALBA 9 Aug; max 126 Pine Bush ALBA 26 Aug.

E. Whip-poor-will: Hillsdale COLU; Jun-thru; Malta SARA 14 Jul.

Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 Pine Bush ALBA 1-29 Aug.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Partridge Run ALBA 18 Aug; max 3 Stratford FULT 25 Aug.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 10 Plateau Mountain GREE 5 Jun.

Acadian Flycatcher: Rensselaerville ALBA 6-11 Aug.

Philadelphia Vireo: 2 Edinburgh SARA 13 Jun.

Purple Martin: 10+ Saratoga Raceway SARA 6 July, colony location; 4 Saratoga L SARA 14 Jul.

Cliff Swallow: Ballston Spa SARA 2 Jun; Livingston COLU 28 Jul.

Bicknell's Thrush: max 15 Plateau Mountain GREE 5 Jun.

Swainson's Thrush: max 10 Plateau Mountain GREE 5 Jun.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Worm-eating Warbler: Hillsdale COLU 10 Aug.

Mourning Warbler: Plateau Mountain GREE 5 Jun, 2 Oppenheim FULT 3 Jul.

Hooded Warbler: Slingerlands ALBA 2 Jun thru.

Cape May Warbler: 4 Partridge Run ALBA 24 Aug.

Cerulean Warbler: max 4 Schodack I RENS 1 Jun.

Blackpoll Warbler: max 10 Plateau Mountain GREE 5 Jun.

Canada Warbler: Cherry Plain RENS 22 Jun; Austerlitz COLU 8 Aug; Albany 17 Aug; Cohoes 18 Aug.

Wilson's Warbler: Partridge Run ALBA 24 Aug.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW (R8): Root MONT 6 Jun.

Vesper Sparrow: Saratoga County Airport SARA 1 Jun-15 Jul.

Grasshopper Sparrow: Saratoga County Airport SARA 1-28 Jun.

Red Crossbill: Rensselaerville SF ALBA 16 Jun-31 Aug.

Evening Grosbeak: Jenny Lake SARA 15 Jun; Glenville SCHE 20 Jul.



REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

Michael Bochnik

70 Hutchinson Boulevard, Mt Vernon, NY 10552

BochnikM@cs.com

The season was very warm and very wet. The first two days of June hit 90° F, but then the month became very wet and cooler. White Plains had nearly three inches of rain on 7 June, and Liberty had over two inches on 11 June. The Bashakill flooded 11 June, allowing John Haas to more accurately count Common Gallinules that breed there. A total of 39 was seen or heard, representing 23 pairs he knew to be present. The flood did not crest until 14 June, and Haven Road remained flooded though 17 June. The water level rose well beyond the nests and many were lost. It was thought that the flooding occurred early enough for many birds to re-nest. The end of June saw a mini heat wave 24-26 June, bumping the average temperatures for the month to a full 3° above normal. Poughkeepsie recorded 7.82" of rain. Normal is 3.73". White Plains had 8.19". Poughkeepsie saw eleven days over 90° in July and reached 97° on 19 June. New Rochelle saw 100.2° on 18 July. The month averaged very warm and wet, 3.2° above normal, with 6" of precipitation. August temperatures were slightly cooler than average. It was still wet. White Plains saw an inch

more rain than normal but Poughkeepsie saw over 7" of precipitation thanks to local thunderstorms dumping over four inches on 10 August.

A probable **Manx Shearwater** was observed and photographed on 7 August by Walter Joseph between 4:30 and 5:00 PM on the Hudson River north of the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge across from the Central Hudson power plant. The bird was well described and upwards of 15 photos were taken, which were enlarged and posted along with more details, including the GPS coordinates, on the New York Birders Facebook page. The bird was relatively stationary for 30 minutes, after which the observer had to leave the area. Consensus from the internet deemed it a Manx. A report will be submitted to NYSARC for review. Observers from boat and shore could not relocate the bird the next day.

An **American White Pelican** was discovered on Piermont Pier by Evan Mark and by a few others early on Tuesday afternoon 11 June. It is Rockland County's first record. The next day the bird was seen flying south past Dobbs Ferry by Gail Benson. Apparently one was seen in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, the Sunday before.

Steve Sachs photographed a **Swallow-tailed Kite** at Stateline Lookout, New Jersey as it hunted and moved down the Hudson River on 15 June. It is presumed that the bird was in New York just prior to that.

During the Putnam County Summer Count Charlie Roberto discovered a **Mississippi Kite** in Cold Spring on 2 June. It was seen again on the 11th. Peter Schoenberger discovered one in Saugerties, perched in dead trees on Old Kings Hwy/CR 34, on 8 June. It remained till 11 June, and it was photographed and seen by many observers while they were looking for the King Rail that was nearby. Another Mississippi Kite was reported in Fahnestock SP at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center on 25 June. The sightings were nicely timed with the local emergence of the 17 year cicadas. The King Rail, first detected on 19 May at the Great Vly Wildlife Management Area, Saugerties, continued till 17 June. A Sandhill Crane first observed on 31 May continued to 6 June on Churchland Lane, Saugerties.

Two **American Avocets** were found along the Hudson River in Newburgh 7 August. Willet sightings continue to increase, with multiple sightings and a maximum of six on Hen Island on 9 June and a female with a chick on 13 June; confirmed breeding? Piermont Pier on the Hudson had one in July. For a historical perspective, there were only a dozen records for Westchester County prior to 1996. John Haas found Sullivan County's first Ruddy Turnstone while kayaking at Morningside Park on 28 July. It was photographed and a few other birders were able to see it. The bird was banded, and it was discovered that this bird had been banded on 22 May 2011 on the Delaware Bay in New Jersey. Later, as John was getting out of his kayak, Lance Verderame spotted a Whimbrel flying overhead for the county's only third record. Peter Schoenberger found two Stilt Sandpipers foraging on exposed mud flats at Kingston Reservoir #1, Woodstock on 22 July.

Terns had a good showing this season, with Least Terns at Marshlands Conservancy, Caspian Terns along the Hudson River, and a Black Tern at

Liberty Marsh. Two Roseate Terns were found in Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary on 13 June, marking only the fourth record for Westchester County.

Purple Martin colonies are generally doing well. A new colony, only three years old at Glynwood Farm, Cold Spring, is up to 48 birds. The small Milton Point, Rye colony has not returned due to the destruction of the martin house by super storm Sandy.

A surprising number of usually late fall migrants showed up early, with late August sightings including Ruby-crowned Kinglet, American Pipit, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Pine Siskin. In addition, Adrienne Popko found a Wilson's Warbler along Valley Farm Road, Millbrook on 21 July. This unusual July sighting is most likely a very early dispersal.

Thanks to activists' efforts to eliminate or reduce mowing on the Croton Point Park landfill, Grasshopper Sparrow, Bobolink, and Eastern Meadowlark have returned. Unfortunately, in mid-July Westchester County's Department of Environmental Facilities decided on more mowing and mowed close to and possibly over one of the Grasshopper Sparrow nests. The Grasshopper Sparrow is on the county's own endangered species list. The birds remained until August, but successful breeding was not confirmed.

Jim Vellozzi found two **Lark Sparrows** feeding on the main road in the grass parking lot during a walk around Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary in Rye on 27 August. Jack Rothman and Richard Aracil also observed them in the afternoon.

Andrew Block reported a female Painted Bunting from downtown New Rochelle on 3 July.

Other notable species include: Long-tailed Duck, Great Cormorant, Black Skimmer, and Blue Grosbeak.

CONTRIBUTORS

Andrea Alterman, Richard Aracil, Scott Baldinger, Kyle Bardwell, Alan and Doreen Beebe, Gail Benson, Alex Bernzweig, Robert Berlingeri, Andrew Block, Michael Bochnik, Arlene Borko, Tom Burke, Oliver Burton, Barbara Butler, Sean Camillieri, Drew Ciganek, Steve Chorvas, Renee Davis, Mark DeDea, Lisa Dellwo, Bruce Dudley, Evan Edelbaum, Andrew Farnsworth, Deb Ferguson, Melissa & Stephen Fischer, Corey Finger, Valerie Freer, Arie Gilbert, Arthur Green, Frances Greenberg, John Haas, Ken Harris, Karen Kearney, Lew Kingley, Tait Johansson, Peter Johnson, Jim Jones, Karalyn Lamb, Ruth Kotecha, Deborah Kral, Elijah Kruger, Aimee LaBarr, Paul Lewis, Sariena Masiero, Kenneth McDermott, Ed McGowan, Brian McGurgan, Ruth McKeon, Danny Messina, Doris Metraux, Sandy Morrissey, Frank Murphy, Michael Newhouse, Bruce Nott, Linda Pistoletti, Vince Plogar, Carena Pooth, Adrienne Popko, Greg Prelich, Jessica Prockup, Scott Rando, Charlie Roberto, Susan Rogers, Jack Rothman, Matthew Rymkiewicz, William Schlesinger, Peter Schoenberger, Bob Slechta, Anne Swain, Herb Thompson, Wendy Tocci, Larry Trachtenberg, James Vellozzi, Lance Verderame, Carol Weiss, Michael Yuan, Mathew Zeitler.

ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Point Park; EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; HRA – Hudson River Almanac; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; PP – Piermont Pier; PSC – Putnam County Summer Count.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Brant: 6 EGR 3 Jun; EGR 6 Jun; 3-4 PP 18, 20, 23 Jun; 6 MC 30 Jun.
Gadwall: 2 Sterling Forest SP 19 Jul (RB).
N. Pintail: 4 Pine Plains 28 Aug.
Ring-necked Duck: Rondout Res 9, 10 Aug; Ryder Pond, Stanford 15 Aug.
Long-tailed Duck: PP 15 Jun (LP), ph, third June record for Rockland.
Bufflehead: Rondout Res 14 Jun (VF,RM), 1st June record for SULL.
Hooded Merganser: juv Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies 18 Jun.
Ring-necked Pheasant: Hickok Brook MUA, Barryville 9 Jun.
Ruffed Grouse: 2 Fahnestock 15, 17 Jun.
Red-throated Loon: EGR 3 Jun (TB).
Com. Loon: EGR 3, 6, 10 Jun; MC 6, 11, 18 Jun, 2 Jul; Tarrytown Res 14 Jun; Hen Island, Rye 26 Jun, 3 Jul; Croton-on-Hudson 10, 24 Jul, 7, 8, 22, 31 Aug, PP 13 Aug.
MANX SHEARWATER: Hudson R between Newburgh and Beacon 7 Aug, ph (WJ), *intro*.
Great Cormorant: imm Wappingers Creek 10 Aug (HRA).
AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: PP 11 Jun (EE, MB, PJ), ph, 1st record for ROCK.
Am. Bittern: Constitution Marsh late Jun; Cary Institute 11 Aug.
Least Bittern: Great Vly 1 Jun; Bashakill 18 Jul.
Snowy Egret: 12 Croton-on-Hudson 22 Aug.
Little Blue Heron: imm Wappingers L 13-20 Aug (KH); 1-2 Tivoli Bays 20, 21 Aug (SRO); imm Wappingers Creek 23-25 Aug.
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Newburgh 21-31 Aug (BN), 3rd ORAN record.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: 42 Hook Mt 29 Aug.
SWALLOW TAILED KITE: Stateline Lookout, NJ 15 June flying in from NY (SS).
Mississippi Kite: Cold Spring 2, 11 Jun (CR, PSC); Saugerties 8-11 Jun (PS, A&DB, SC, mob); Fahnestock SP at Taconic Outdoor Education Center 25 Jun, center mid Jun (PSC).
Bald Eagle: 7 Hook Mt 29 Aug.
N. Harrier: CPP 19 Aug.
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Broad-winged Hawk: 1st migr Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 17 Aug.
Clapper Rail: Hen I 8, 11 Jun; 1-2 MC 20, 24, 27 Jun, 1, 5, 9, 10 Jul, 9 Aug; 2 Hen I 1 Jul, 27 Aug.
King Rail: Great Vly, Saugerties 1-17 Jun (MR, CF, mob), photo.
Virginia Rail: 4 Great Vly, Saugerties 12 Jul.
Sora: Great Vly, Saugerties 1 Jun, 12 Jul; imm Iona I 30 Aug.
Com. Gallinule: 39 Bashakill 11 June, *intro* has details about nest loss due to flooding.
Sandhill Crane: Saugerties 1-6 Jun (SC, MD, PS, mob).
Am. Golden-Plover: Skinners Lane, Goshen 13 Aug (MZ).
Am. Oystercatcher: 3 Rye 5 Jun; MC 24 Jun; 20 Rye 6 Jul; 2 MC 29 Jul, 6 Aug; 7 MC 4, 26 Aug; 3 EGR 17 Aug.
Am. Avocet: 2 Newburgh 7 Aug (KM, M&SF, KK) ph.
Spotted Sandpiper: Indiana Rd, Goshen 30 Jun.
Willet: 2 MC 6 Jun; 6 Hen I, Rye 9 Jun; MC 24 Jun; 4 ad, 1 chick Hen I 13 Jun; 2 Hen 2 Jul; PP 14 Jul (DC); MC 6 Aug.
Upland Sandpiper: 4 Blue Chip Farm 8, 16 Jun; CPP 19 Aug; Black Dirt Region 25, 28, 29, 31 Aug.
Whimbrel: Morningside Park 28 Jul (LV), 3rd SULL record.
Ruddy Turnstone: Morningside P, Hurleyville 28 Jul, (JH,ABO,RD,SB), 1st SULL record, banded on 22 May 2011 at Reeds Beach, NJ; 4 Rye 30 Jul; 10 EGR 22 Aug.
White-rumped Sandpiper: PP 20 Jul.
Baird's Sandpiper: Pine Island 9 Aug; Skinners Lane, Goshen 9, 10, 13 Aug; Piermont 14 Aug; Morningside P, Hurleyville 16, 17 Aug.
Stilt Sandpiper: 2 Kingston Res 22 Jul (PS).
Bonaparte's Gull: PP 11 Jun, 30 Jul (EE).
Laughing Gull: 26 CPP 18 Aug.
Least Tern: 2 MC 27 Jun, 12 Jul.
Caspian Tern: PP 14, 15 Jul (DC, CW); 2 CPP 28 Jul (LT, JG, KL, CR); Esopus 11 Aug (JP,WT).
Black Tern: Liberty Marsh 14 Jun (SCA).
Roseate Tern: 2 ad EGR 13 Jun (TB).

Com. Tern: 200 Rye 9 Jun.
Forster's Tern: 2 EGR 13 Jun; 1 ad, 1 juv MC 29 Jul; 2 ad, 4 imm CPP 6 Aug (BS); Croton-on-Hudson 18,22 Aug (BS).
Black Skimmer: Rye 11 Jun (TB); MC 24 Jun (TB).

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Com. Nighthawk: 13 Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch 17 Aug; 34 Wingdale 26 Aug; 6 Glen Spey 31 Aug; 35 Stony Pt 31 Aug.
E. Whip-poor-will: 7 Woodstock/Saugerties 1-28 Jun; 4 Fahnestock 17 Jun.
Red-headed Woodpecker: 3-4 Weston Rd Swamp Jun-Aug; Muscoot Farm 27, 30 Jun, 6, 14 Jul, 10 Aug.
Yellow-bellied sapsucker: Katonah 9,13 Jul, unusual for WEST.
Am. Kestrel: Ulster 29 Jun; CPP 28 Jul.
Merlin: Aug Apollo Plaza 2 Aug (JH); Forsyth Nature Center 14-16 Aug (MD); Buttercup West 30 Aug (BB, CP).

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Wolf Brook MUA, Wurtsboro 6 Jun; MC 30 Aug; 2 MC 31 Aug.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Slide/Cornell Mtn 10 Jun; Orangeburg 16 Aug.
Acadian Flycatcher: Bashakill 1 Jun; Mianus River Gorge 8, 9 Jun.
Alder Flycatcher: 8 Fir Brook 1 Jun.
Philadelphia Vireo: Rockefeller Preserve 24 Aug (EE).
Purple Martin: 48 Glynwood Farm, Cold Spring 15 Jun (LT, KB.); MC 18 Jun; 2 MC 19 Aug; 2 Yonkers 20 Aug.
Marsh Wren: max 4 MC 5, 29 Jul.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: MC 19 Aug (FG, RK); Old Minnewaska Trail, Mohonk Preserve 21 Aug (AL), early; Millbrook 28 Aug (AP).
Bicknell's Thrush: 4 Slide Mtn 10 Jun; 3 Cornell Mtn 10 Jun; 1 Wittenberg Mtn 10 Jun.
Swainson's Thrush: calling Crawford Town P, Rye Brook 9 Jun.

Am. Pipit: Indiana Rd, Goshen 30 Jun (KM, DaM).

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Golden-winged Warbler: nested Cold Spring Jun (LK).
"Brewster's" Warbler: Fahnestock SP 15 Jun.
Prothonotary Warbler: Bowdoin P 25 Aug (KH).
Kentucky Warbler: Fahnestock SP 10 Jun.
Cape May Warbler: Buttercup S 24 Aug.
Cerulean Warbler: 4 Fahnestock SP 17 Jun.
N. Parula: New Rochelle 24 Aug.
Magnolia Warbler: MC 6 Jun
Blackburnian Warbler: Rockefeller SP 15 Aug.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: CPP 31 Aug.
Canada Warbler: Mianus River George 9 Jun.
Wilson's Warbler: Valley Farm Road, Millbrook 21 Jul (AP), very early dispersal.
Yellow-breasted Chat: MC 31 Aug.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Vesper Sparrow: Ulster 29 Jun (MD).
LARK SPARROW: 2 EGR 27, 28 Aug (JV, JR,RA), early, most records are fall and winter.
Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 CPP 9, 10 Jun; 3 Indiana Rd, Goshen 30 Jun; 4 CPP 8, 28 Jul; 3 CPP 20 Aug.
Nelson's Sparrow: MC 5, 6 Jun.
White-throated Sparrow: 6 Fir Brook 1 Jun (LV).
Blue Grosbeak: MC 5 Jun (TB).
PAINTED BUNTING: fem New Rochelle 3 Jul (ABI).
Bobolink: 20 CPP 9 Jun; 30 CPP 28 Jul.
E. Meadowlark: CPP 9 Jun (LT).
Pine Siskin: 6 Mahopac 28 Aug (BM).

EXOTICS

Rose-ringed Parakeet: New City 1 Jun (OB).



REGION 10—MARINE

Patricia J. Lindsay

28 Mystic Circle, Bay Shore, NY 11706
pj Lindsay@optonline.net

Shaibal S. Mitra

Biology Department, College of Staten Island
2800 Victory Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10314
Shaibal.Mitra@cuny.csi.edu

The summer weather was warm to hot and largely uneventful. The highest temperature recorded for the period was 98° in Central Park on 18 July, and the Region was not directly impacted by tropical storms.

June's mean temperature was 6.9°, 1.5° above normal. Precipitation totaled 8.15" in Islip, and 10.10" in Central Park, 3.88" and 5.69" more than normal, respectively. About 5" of that fell in the 24 hour period 7-8 Jun. July's mean temperature was 78.0°, 4.1° higher than normal. Precipitation was 1.09" below normal, at 2.34". August cooled off a bit, with the mean temperature 72.3°, 0.5° lower than normal. August continued dry, with just 2.72" of rain, 1.26" below normal. (Data are for Islip unless otherwise noted, taken from the NOAA weather site.)

Following this year's abysmal spring migration, observers were curious to gauge the breeding populations of various Neotropical-migrant landbirds. In the absence of rigorous data collected via controlled effort, few conclusions could be drawn, at least in our Region. We heard from a number of careful observers that Wood Thrushes and Baltimore Orioles seemed scarcer than usual this June. Conversely, Chimney Swifts, which have declined in parts of the Region in recent years, seemed to be conspicuous everywhere this summer. The undoubted highlight of the breeding season was Long Island's much anticipated first confirmed breeding of Yellow-throated Warbler, at Connetquot River State Park Preserve. Other notable breeding events included a nesting attempt, apparently failed, by Bald Eagles along the Carman's River in the Wertheim NWR, and another nesting by Turkey Vultures in Suffolk County, this one documented by DEC workers via a nest cam in the dwarf pine plains—an area where the conspicuous presence of adults in recent summers had raised suspicions of nesting by this very difficult to confirm species.

Inshore seabird activity seemed much reduced compared to recent years. In particular, Wilson's Storm-Petrels were very scarce and the species was unrecorded from the eastern Long Island Sound, where it is usually regular in summer. The number of Sandwich Tern reports (about 8) was only slightly higher than usual, and these conformed to the very stereotyped pattern that has emerged in recent years, at least in the absence of hurricanes: scattered reports of one-two birds around ocean inlets (this year Jones, Moriches, and Mecox) from early June to late July (this year 22 Jun-27 July). It was within this window that a Cayenne Tern showed up back in 2000, and it was probably not a coincidence

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that this period yielded another stellar tern record this year: New York's first **Elegant Tern**, pending review. Found by Andy Guthrie and Andrew Baksh at Cupsogue on 3 July as they investigated the hybrid *Calidris*, this bird proved very difficult to chase. It eluded all observers the next day until dusk, when Brett Gleitsman re-found it miles to the east at Tiana Beach. It was seen several more times through 8 July, at Tiana Beach, on the intervening oceanfront, and back at Cupsogue.

Among the commoner shorebird species, numbers of juveniles were noted as lower than usual by several observers, particularly at Jamaica Bay. As usual, however, there were several notable shorebird records, including a **Black-necked Stilt**, a **Curlew Sandpiper**, two **Ruffs**, and a photogenic **Dunlin x White-rumped Sandpiper hybrid**. Beyond these, one shorebird quest was so astounding that it deserves some narration. On 29 Jun, Andrew Baksh traveled from Queens to Newburyport, MA, in search of a **Red-necked Stint** that had been present there, missed it, and made the long drive home. When Tom Burke related this story to Shai Mitra that evening, the latter replied, "Well, I wouldn't worry about him too much—he'll probably be calling us with one of his own one of these days." Tom's reply, "Maybe even this same one!" proved remarkably prescient. It was, in fact, the very next day that Andrew and John Gluth found a Red-necked Stint at Cupsogue. What's more, photographic analysis showed it to be the very bird Andrew had chased unsuccessfully the day before!

Summer 2013 was, by far, the best to date for early summer **Arctic Terns**. The surge in records was surely partly due to increased effort, awareness, and skill among observers, but the writers can offer fairly robust controls for these variables, having studied the issue since 1999, with relatively uniform effort and knowledge since 2005. It was our experience this year that this species was difficult to miss in the appropriate contexts, with multiple individuals very often present, throughout June and early July.

Cold fronts 5 August and 14-15 August produced large flights of swallows and other early migrants along the barrier beaches, and the latter front also brought a major wave of warblers and other migrants to the city parks.

CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Adamo, Patricia Aitken, Bob Anderson, Richard Aracil, Jim Ash, Seth Ausubel, Andrew Baksh, Debbie Becker, Gail Benson, Bobby Berlingeri, Shane Blodgett, Brent Bomkamp, Ardith Bondi, Nick Bonomo, Mike Britt, Sharon & Marc Brody, Thomas W. Burke, Chase Cammarota, Sean Camillieri, Cesar Castillo, Anthony Ciancimino, Mike Cooper, Ed Crowne, Jim Cullen, Peter Dorosh, Alan Drogin, Tim Dunn, Michael Farina, Ken Feustel, Sue Feustel, Corey Finger, Tom Fiore, Howie Fischer, Brendan Fogarty, Mark French, Karen Fung, Doug Futuyma, John Gaglione, Ed Gaillard, Arie Gilbert, Joe Giunta, Brett Gleitsmann, John Gluth, Menachem Goldstein, Isaac Grant, Anthony

Graves, Andy Guthrie, Chip Hamilton, Mike Higgiston, Joel & Peg Horman, Rob Jett, Richard Kaskan, Rich Kelly, Dave Klauber, Kathryn Klecan, Artie Koppelman, Robert J. Kurtz, David LaMagna, MaryLaura Lamont, Walter Laufer, Anthony J. Lauro, Michael Lester, Patricia J. Lindsay, Rob Longiaru, Bobbi Manian, Michael McBrien (MMcB), Mike McBrien (MikeMcB), Jay McGowan, Hugh McGuinness, Annie McIntyre, Keith Michael, Eric Miller, Karlo Mirth, Shaibal S. Mitra, Tom Moran, Andy Murphy, New York Rare Bird Alert, Mary Normandia, Luke Ormand, Brian Padden, Pat Palladino, Robert Paxton, Anders Peltomaa, Stephane Perreault, Joan Quinlan, Glenn Quinn, Derek Rogers, Lynne & Mike Scheibel, Steve Schellenger, Sy Schiff, Jim Schlickerrieder, Donna Schulman, Eileen Schwinn, John Sepinoski, Mike Shanley, John Shemilt, Sean Sime, Nadir Sourigi, Adam Starke, Lee Stocker, Scott Stoner, Terry Sullivan, Dianne Taggart, Harry Taylor, Diana Teta, Benjamin Van Doren, Mike Vedder, Joe Viglietta, Steve Walter, Gabriel Willow, Angus Wilson, Holly Wilson, John Wittenberg.

ABBREVIATIONS

1S – first summer plumage; 2S – second summer plumage; Amag – Amagansett, SUFF; APP – Alley Pond P, QUEE; BP – Breezy Pt, QUEE; CCP – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; CR – Cemetery of the Resurrection, RICH; CLP – Clove Lakes P, RICH; CP – Central Park, NEWY; CRESLI – Coastal Research and Education Society of LI; CRSP – Connetquot R SP, SUFF; EH – East Hampton, SUFF; East Patchogue – SUFF; EPCAL – former Grumman property, Calverton, SUFF; FT – Fort Tilden, QUEE; FOS – first of season; GB – Georgica Beach, EH, SUFF; JamBay – Jamaica Bay NWR, QUEE/KING, east pd unless otherwise noted; JBWE – Jones Beach SP West End, NASS; JBSP – Jones Beach SP, NASS; LBMCA – Lido Beach Marine Conservation Area, NASS; Marine P – KINGS; migr – migrant, migrating; MB – Mecox Bay; MLUA – Mount Loretto Unique Area, RICH; MP – Montauk Pt; Mtk – Montauk, SUFF; NB – Nickerson Beach, NASS; NYBG – New York Botanical Garden, BRON; OMNSA – Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area – NASS; PB – Pikes Beach, Westhampton, SUFF; PonqB – Ponquogue Bridge, SUFF; PP – Prospect P, KING; RBA – NY Rare Bird Alert; Riv sod farms – Riverhead sod farms, SUFF; RMSP – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; RPt DEC – Rocky Pt DEC property, SUFF; Shinn – Shinnecock Inlet and vicinity, SUFF; SI – Staten I (RICH); SOFO – South Fork Natural History Museum, Bridgehampton, SUFF; SPCP – Smith Pt CP, SUFF; TB --Tiana Beach, T Southampton, SUFF; WPP – Wolfes Pond P, RICH.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Snow Goose: Lemon Creek P, RICH 14-16 Jul, cont from spring, poss injured (RBA).

Wood Duck: f & 5 chicks Wading R Ponds, Brookhaven /Riverhead T 6 Jun (L. Ormond, A. Graves).

Blue-winged Teal: arr 18 Jul JamBay (ABa) & Sagg (B. Moore).

Northern Pintail: arr JamBay 16 Aug (W. Rocky).

Green-winged Teal: 5 Gardiners I 26 Jun (MSch); 6 arr JamBay 8 Jul (ABk).

Greater Scaup: 3-4 Dead Horse Bay, KING, thru (R. Jett, H. Lopes, et al.); imm Babylon 17 Jun (T. Dunn) & 25 Jun (MMcB), with imm Lesser Scaup.

Lesser Scaup: imm Babylon 17 Jun (T. Dunn) & 25 Jun (MMcB), with imm Greater Scaup, rare in summer.

Common Eider: widely rep in small numbers from Jones Inlet, Fire I Inlet, Moriches I, Shinn, Montauk, and Orient Pt.

Surf Scoter: widely rep in small numbers from Jones Inlet, Fire I Inlet, Moriches I, Shinn, and Montauk; max 14 Shinn 21 Jun (DR).

White-winged Scoter: widely rep in small numbers from Jones Inlet, Fire I Inlet, Shinn, Montauk, and Orient Pt; max 15 Shinn 14 Jun (DR).

Black Scoter: exceptionally widespread and numerous this summer, with reports from the Hudson R opposite mid-town Manhattan, Coney I Cr, KING, inside JamBay, and many sites along the LI ocean-front; a flock of >100, summered around Jones Inlet, NASS, and 50+ were off TB 8 Jul (SSi).

Long-tailed Duck: 2 reps: Dead Horse Bay 2 Jun (C. Bowman); Napeague Harbor, SUFF 25 Jun (J. Frye).

Bufflehead: one rep: Forge R 11 Jun (B. Young).

Hooded Merganser: 3 reps of singles: JamBay 16 Jun (J. Corcoran); APP Restoration Pd 7 Aug (S. Perrault), Whitney Pd P 13 Aug (S. Perrault).

Red-breasted Merganser: pr Carmans R 1 Jun, molting (LO); several other reps along coast.

Ruddy Duck: a few summered JamBay where regular; more unusual were singles Marine P, KING 1 Jun (mob), Central Park 2 Jun (E. Gaillard) and across many dates PP (mob).

Northern Bobwhite: TB 7 Jul (MMcB, MikeMcB); Mtk 8 Jul (JT); Flanders, SUFF 28 Jul (LO).

Ring-necked Pheasant: JBSP 8 Jun (SSchi, B. Anderson), absent here for yrs.

Red-throated Loon: migr w to e post storm Amag 8 Jun (AnW).

Common Loon: 412 migr w to e post storm Amag 8 Jun (AnW).

Pied-billed Grebe: arr 15 Aug Flushing Meadows Corona P (E. Mertz).

Horned Grebe: alt Downs Farm Pres, SUFF 1 Jun (JS), unus date.

Northern Fulmar: near Block Canyon 17 Jun (TJ, ph).

Cory's Shearwater: well reported from ocean coast, incl the following selected reps: 12 CCP 15 Jun (ABa, mob); 230 w to e in 45 min GB 12 Jul (NBo); 105 CRESLI pelagic 12.5 mi s Mtk 21 Jul; 324 MP 9 Aug (AnW); 35 RMSP 17 Aug (M. Britt, MFr); 20 MB 24 Aug (GB, TWB).

Great Shearwater: a few inshore reports and 2 good counts offshore: 6 CCP 4 Jul (RBA); 500+ CRESLI pelagic 11-17 m s Mtk 7 Jul (AK); GB 9 Jul (NBo); 500 CRESLI pelagic off Mtk 14 Jul (AGi); 59 MP 9 Aug (AnW).

Sooty Shearwater: poorly reported inshore: a few CCP 1 Jun (S. Walter et al); 33 migr w to e post storm Amag 8 Jun (AnW); 4 RMSP 14 Jun; 4 CCP 4 Jul (RBA); 3 MP 9 Aug (AnW); several modest counts offshore: 85 CRESLI whalewatch 11-17 m s Mtk 7 Jul (AK); 50 CRESLI pelagic off Mtk 14 Jul (AGi); 26 CRESLI pelagic 12.5 mi s Mtk 21 Jul.

Manx Shearwater: well reported along SUFF oceanfront: 3 migr w to e post storm Amag 8 Jun (AnW); RMSP 13 Jun (SSM); CCP 22 Jun (GB et al); CCP 4 Jul (PJL); CRESLI pelagic 11-17 mi s Mtk 7 Jul (AK); 4 GB 12 Jul (NBo); 5 CRESLI pelagic 12.5 mi s Mtk 21 Jul; 4 RMSP 4 Aug (M. Britt, MFr); MP 9 Aug (AnW); RMSP 17 Aug (M. Britt, MFr).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: very poor showing inshore: single ind migr w to e post storm Amag 8 Jun (AnW); just a handful of reports of one to a few RMSP, CCP, Shinn; only 2 CRESLI pelagic 11-17 m s Mtk 7 Jul (AK); "slow trickle" GB, near shore w to e in fog 13 Jul (NBo); 12 CRESLI pelagic off Mtk 14 Jul (AGi); 1700 CRESLI pelagic 12.5 mi s Mtk 21 Jul, only notable count.

WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL: Block Canyon 80 mi s Shinn 20 Aug (private fishing boat).

LEACH'S STORM-PETREL: pelagic off south shore LI 14 Jul (RBA).

Northern Gannet: 103 migr w to e post storm Amag 8 Jun (AnW).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN (R10): Stony Brook Harbor, SUFF 16 Jun (LI Birding w ph).

Brown Pelican: 5 off Mtk Harbor 21 Jul (SA); Riis Park, QUEE 10 Aug (IG).

Least Bittern: ad f LBMCA 21 Jun (JGI); Old Place Creek area, RICH 26 Jul (RBA).

Tricolored Heron: Little Reed Pd, Mtk 8 Jun (AnW), rare eastern LI; LBMCA 16 Jun (C. Castillo), continues scarce overall.

Cattle Egret: Southampton 4 Jun (J. Shemilt) and Mecox Dairy, Bridgehampton 5 Jun

(MSch); Marine P 4 Jun (B. Manian); Marine P 29 Jul (RBA).

WHITE-FACED IBIS: ad JamBay 12 Jun (IG, M. Shanley), prob same elusive ind observed in spring.

Turkey Vulture: 16 EPCAL 14 Jun (M. Cooper); pair of recently hatched young in culvert pipe Dwarf Pine Plains early Aug (fide C. Hamilton).

HAWKS-ALCIDS

MISSISSIPPI KITE: sub ad CR 6-24 Jun (A. Ciancimino, mob), associated w 17 year cicada event.

Bald Eagle: continues to incr.; pr nest Carmans R, SUFF, failed, *intro*; imm over Bronx R 8 Jun (D. Becker); ad MLUA 21 Jun (M. Lester); imm NB 14 Jun (KFeu, SFeu, ABA); ad Bayville 17 Jun, present in May also (P. Aitken, ph); ad Jamaica Bay near Rockaway, QUEE 30 Jun (G. Willow); ad Peconic R, SUFF 19 Aug (RBA).

American Golden-Plover: 13-17 Riv sod farms 30 Aug (E. Schwinn et al); JamBay 31 Aug (S. Walter).

Semipalmated Plover: 750 BP 9 Aug (IG).

BLACK-NECKED STILT: CCP 18 Jun (SSM, ph).

American Avocet: JamBay 8-12 Jul (ABA); Flushing Meadow-Corona P, QUEE 21 Jul (K. Mirth); JamBay 27 Jul (K. Michael, mob); JamBay 30 Jul (ABA), JBWE 3 Aug (B. Anderson); 2 Timber Point Golf Course, Great River SUFF 3 Aug (M. Vedder); PonqB, SUFF 8 Aug (A. Murphy); JamBay 14-23 Aug (ABA, mob).

Greater Yellowlegs: 6 migr CCP during heavy westward movement of shorebirds 8 Jul (SSM); first juv CCP 4 Aug (SSM).

Willet: 1S *inornata* CCP 1 Jun, FOS (SSM); withdrawal of *semipalmata* 27-Jul-3 Aug; first juv *inornata* CCP 4 Aug (SSM).

Lesser Yellowlegs: 7 migr CCP during heavy westward movement of shorebirds 8 Jul (SSM); first juv CCP 4 Aug (SSM).

Solitary Sandpiper: morning flight surveys produced many records of migrants, e.g., 9 on 4 dates 6-23 Aug RMSP (SSM et al.) & 7 on 5 dates 17 Jul-15 Aug E. Patchogue (MMcB).

Upland Sandpiper: Edgemere Landfill, QUEE 23 Jun; EPCAL 4 Jul (SA, RKe, MN), suitable breeding area; Cutchogue, SUFF 10 Aug (J. Sepinoski, J. Wittenberg); JBWE 11 Aug (K. Fung); migr E. Patchogue 10 & 15 Aug (MMcB), migr; CCP 17 Aug (RKA, mob).

Whimbrel: arr 4 JBWE 2 Jul (H. Taylor); max 5 Cedar Beach CP, Southold, SUFF 24 Jul (P.

Palladino) & 5 CCP 3 Aug (L&MSch); numerous reps of small numbers migr along outer coast; almost all moved through quickly, as is usual, and the Southold site was the only one attracting lingering birds.

Hudsonian Godwit: 6 BP/FT 1 Aug (RBA), migr; JBWE 9 Aug (DR); JamBay 31 Aug (ABA).

Marbled Godwit: TB 11 Jul (JA); BP/FT 25 Jul-4 Aug, (mob); juv CCP 4 (SSM); 1-2 CCP/PB 10-21 Aug (mob), joined by third 22 Aug, then 6 on 24 Aug; Dune Rd. SUFF 25 Aug (AP).

Red Knot: 26 CCP 4 Jun (LS, JC), summering.

Sanderling: 2000 BP 9 Aug (IG).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: first juv JamBay 5 Aug (ABA).

Western Sandpiper: relatively few reports JamBay, JBWE, Timber Pt, CCP; max 4 JamBay 31 Jul (ABA); winter aspect CCP 27 Jul (SSM).

RED-NECKED STINT: ad alt CCP 30 Jun-4 Jul (JGI, ABA, mob), *intro*.

Least Sandpiper: heavy westward movement CCP 8 Jul (i.e., 920 during peak movement + 200 on ground (SSM); first juv JamBay 28 Jul; winter aspect CCP 4 Aug (SSM), seldom seen in Region 10.

White-rumped Sandpiper: 7 JamBay 5 Aug, first fall push (ABA); 15+ JamBay 7 Aug (ABA, KFeu).

Baird's Sandpiper: molting ad JamBay 20-21 Jul (ABA, mob), ads rarely seen; juv Bayard Cutting Arboretum, SUFF 10 Aug (JGI); MB 18 Aug (JA); JBWE 22-25 Aug (DR, mob); Riv sod farms 29-31 Aug (LS, JC, mob).

Pectoral Sandpiper: small numbers in the usual places.

Dunlin: migr cont through early Jun; a few summered Jam Bay, Jones Inlet, & Moriches Inlet; others incl Whitney Pd P 21 Jul (SP) & 2 Merrill L Sanct 10 Jul (DR).

Dunlin x White-rumped Sandpiper hybrid: PB & CCP 3-8 Jul (mob, ph).

CURLEW SANDPIPER: MB 18-24 Aug (JA, mob), fading alt plumage.

Stilt Sandpiper: arr CCP 5 Jul (B. Bomkamp); max 54 JamBay 21 Jul (ABA); 4 juvs JBWE 22-25 Aug (KFeu), in freshwater rain pools; joined by one ad here 25 Aug.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: arr 29 Aug JBWE (C. Cammarota).

RUFF: JamBay 19-21 Jul (ABA); 2nd ind JamBay 27 Jul (J. Schlickerrieder).

Short-billed Dowitcher: ad alt *hendersoni* CCP 16-18 Jun (MMcB, mob); heavy westward movement CCP 8 Jul (i.e., 660

during peak movement + 200 on ground (SSM).

Long-billed Dowitcher: JamBay 17 Jul (IG); alt JamBay 25, 26, 28 Jul (ABa); JamBay 2 Aug (RBA); ad JamBay 7 Aug (KFeu); OMNSA 25 Aug (M. Shanley).

Wilson's Snipe: flyover PB 11 Aug (RKa).

Wilson's Phalarope: JamBay 7 Aug (fide SSI, mob); JamBay 17-20 Aug (K. Fung, ABa, mob); JBWE rain pools 23 Aug (D. Teta, EM). **Red-necked Phalarope:** f Shinn 1 Jun; m PB 20-23 (also at CCP 23 Jun) Jun (M. Higgiston, E. Schwinn, mob); Hudson R, NEWY 18 Aug (W. Laufer, mob); 5 s of Mtk 22 Aug (private fishing boat).

Bonaparte's Gull: ad bas CCP 28 Jul (DR); CCP 18 Aug (SSM).

Black-headed Gull: ad JamBay 30 Jun (ABa).

Herring Gull: 650 w to e in 45 min GB 12 Jul (NBa), and still going strong after.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: numerous and widespread, but no large groups this summer; 5 imm JBWE 8 Jun; 3 CCP 8 Jul (S. Blodgett et al); 3 2nd cycle NB 10 Jul (BF); 3 JBSP 4 Aug (SSM); 3 Democrat Pt, FI 7 Aug; 4 (ad, 2 2S, 3S) BP 9 Aug (IG); 3 JBWE 22 Aug (ABa, MMcB).

BRIDLED TERN: 2 Block Canyon 11 Aug (private fishing boat).

Least Tern: 3 1S CCP 18 Jun (SSM), FOS.

Gull-billed Tern: many reps of 1-2 JamBay 1 Jun through 31 Jul (m.ob.); 2 Lawrence Marsh, NASS 4 Jun (A. Starke); many reps NB 10 Jun to 6 Aug, incl ad fd juv 26 Jul and max 4 on 6 Aug (BF, mob); many reps 1-4 JBSP CCP 4 Jun-9 Aug (KFe, mob); 2 Tobay 4 Jun (J. Gaglione); 30 Jun (ABk, JGI et al.) rare e LI.

Caspian Tern: 3 past WPP 11 Aug (RBA); 2 WPP 20 Aug (RBA).

Black Tern: first juv CCP 3 Aug (SSM, PJJ); max 46 Napeague, SUFF 9 Aug (AnW).

Roseate Tern: many reps NB 10 Jun to 6 Aug, max 9 on 28 Jul (BF, mob); many reps DP 4 Jun to 15 Aug, max 13 on 8 Aug (SSM, mob); many reps CCP through period, max 14 on 16 Jun (HMc, mob); many reps further e.

Common Tern: 160 w to e in 45 min GB 12 Jul (NBa), and still going strong after.

Arctic Tern: reps of 1-5 almost daily Moriches Inlet 1 Jun to 11 Jul, incl max 7 on 15 Jun (ABa, mob), mostly 1S, but also @S and ad-like inds; ad RMSP 6 Jun (DR), well described on close views; 1S NB 11, 18 Jun (BF, ph).

Royal Tern: 3 arr 1 Jun Amagansett (AnW); many reps Moriches Inlet and elsewhere on e LI from 16 Jun (SSM, mob); 2 NB 6 Aug (R.

Longiaru), loafing at tern colony; max 35 Tiana Beach 25 Aug (AP, B. Padden, R. Aracil), low.

ELEGANT TERN: first state record, pending review: CCP 3 Jul (A. Guthrie, ABa, MSch); Tiana Beach 4 Jul (B. Gleitsmann, ph), 5 Jul (J. McGowan et al.; PJJ, SSM) & 6 Jul (TWB, mob); CCP 7 Jul (MMcB, MikeMcB); CCP 8 Jul (S. Camillieri), possibly present CCP as early as 27 Jun (AGi et al.).

SANDWICH TERN: ad alt CCP 22 Jun (TWB, GB); 2 CCP 27 Jun (AGi et al); winter plumaged PB 8 Jul (SSM); NB 10 Jul (BF); ad MB 13 Jul (NBa); MB 20 Jul (DS); ad PB & Moriches In 24 Jul (LS, JC); CCP 27 Jul (PJJ).

Pomarine Jaeger: ad NB 11 Jun (BF et al, ph); 2 pelagic 11-17 m s Mtk 7 Jul CRESLI whalewatch trip (AK); likely this sp; GB 11 Jul (NBa); 2 MP 9 Aug (AnW).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER: sub ad migr w to e post storm Amag 8 Jun (AnW); probable RMSP 14 Jun (RBA); near ad MB 13 Jul (NBa); 2 s of Mtk 22 Aug (private fishing boat).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS

Common Nighthawk: single bird Hauppauge, SUFF 20 Aug (G. Quinn), first report; widespread reports of 1-3 birds 27-31 Aug; no notable counts.

Chuck-will's-widow: calling birds rep from Quogue and Watch Hill area, Fire I, trad sites.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Bronx Zoo 19 Jun (RBA); ad APP 20 Jun (EM, mob).

FLYCATCHERS-WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: CP 10, 18, & 31 Aug (AP, mob); Massapequa Pres 14 Aug (J. Gaglione); one or more PP 6 dates 15-31 Aug (mob); CLP 23 Aug (H. Fischer, M. Shanley); CR 27-29 Aug (A. Ciancimino).

Acadian Flycatcher: singing CRSP 12 Jun (KFeu).

FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER: East Hampton Airport 25 Jun (TS, ph).

Eastern Kingbird: 34 migr E. Patchogue 15 Aug (MMcB).

Yellow-throated Vireo: mult reports inc singing male APP 3 Jul, prob breeding (S. Perreault).

Philadelphia Vireo: CP 21 & 29 Aug; CLP 21 Aug (IG); PP 24 Aug (PD).

COMMON RAVEN (R10): 4 Hampton Bays water tower 8 Jul (RA), where they nested again this year.

Purple Martin: 74 migr RMSP 14 Aug (SSM).

Tree Swallow: 948 migr RMSP 14 Aug (SSM).
Bank Swallow: 59 migr RMSP 5 Aug (SSM); 45 migr RMSP 14 Aug (SSM).
Cliff Swallow: 20 migr RMSP 5 Aug (SSM).
Barn Swallow: 6,121 migr RMSP 14 Aug (SSM).
Swainson's Thrush: CLP 6 Aug (H. Fischer), early.

WARBLERS

Louisiana Waterthrush: RPt DEC 18 Jul (RKa).
Northern Waterthrush: 9 RMSP 5 Aug, first fall push (SSM).
Golden-winged Warbler: PP 12 Aug (R. Jett); f APP 31 Aug (DK); rare in fall.
"Lawrence's Warbler" (Blue-winged Warbler x Golden-winged Warbler hybrid): PP 12 Aug (R. Jett), seen simultaneously with Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warblers; CP 12 Aug (RBA); CP 30-31 Aug (E. Gaillard, mob).
"Brewster's Warbler" (Golden-winged Warbler x Blue-winged Warbler hybrid): PP 16-18 Aug (PD).
Mourning Warbler: PP 1 Jun, cont from spring; Inwood Hill P, BRON 19 Aug (N. Souirgi), early.
Kentucky Warbler: m singing RPt DEC 11 Jun, where m was present during summer last yr; not seen subsequently (RKa).
American Redstart: 18 inc 16 singing males APP 3 Jul; fall arr JamBay refuge 4 Aug, (A. Bondi) and 3 CP 5 Jul (E. Gaillard).
Cape May Warbler: APP 26 Jul (EM), early.
Cerulean Warbler: CLP 21 Aug (IG), scarce migr in Reg.
Northern Parula: singing CRSP 12 Jun (KFeu).

Yellow Warbler: 49 RMSP 5 Aug, first fall push (SSM).
Yellow-throated Warbler: territorial m CRSP, cont from spring (RBA); singing m and separate pr CRSP 12 Jun (KFeu); singing m CRSP 21, 26 Jun & 6 Jul (RA, A. McIntyre et al); ad feeding 2 fledglings here 14 Jul (A. McIntyre), first breeding record for LI; CLP 11 Aug (IG), w/ mixed flock of warblers.
Yellow-breasted Chat: PP 18 Aug (RBA).

TOWHEES-WEAVERS

Vesper Sparrow: JBSP 28 Jul (DK).
Lark Sparrow: Marine P 31 Aug (RBA).
Grasshopper Sparrow: 32 EPCAL 4 Jul (SA, RKe, MN), spared from development one more year.
Fox Sparrow: Ridge, SUFF feeder 18 Aug (J & P Horman), very unusual date.
White-throated Sparrow: Bryant P, NEWY 16 Aug (A. Drogin), unusual date.
Summer Tanager: m FP 4 Jun (RBA).
Blue Grosbeak: m Line Rd., Calverton, SUFF 6 Jun (SFeu); m and f here 8 Jun (M. Cooper); pr MLUA 8 Jun, f carrying nest material (ABa, ph.); m MLUA 14 Jun (SSi); imm m CRSP 19 Jun (SSM); ad and imm m singing CR 25 Jun (RBA); 2 singing males EPCAL 4 Jul (SA, RKe, MN); SOFO 11 Jul (HMcG); ad, 2 immes Vets Memorial P, Calverton SUFF 30 Aug (J. Horman).
Bobolink: first migr 2 E Patchogue 16 Jul; widespread in small numbers 28 Jul thru.
Eastern Meadowlark: 23 EPCAL 4 Jul (SA, RKe, MN).
Orchard Oriole: 8 MLUA 14 Jun (SSi), high single loc count; 6 RMSP 5 Aug (SSM).

EXOTICS

Ringed Turtle-Dove: Isham Park, BRON 30 Aug (N. Souirgi).



Summer 2013 was the best yet for Arctic Terns on Long Island. These two first-summer birds (center) interacted with each other and with a first-summer Common Tern (left) at Cupsogue CP, Suffolk on 18 Jun. © S. S. Mitra.

STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

Regional rarities appear in **BOLD**; county names are shortened to their first four letters and appear in **UPPER CASE** letters; months are shortened to their first three letters. In species accounts: number of individuals omitted implies that one individual was reported; ! – details seen by Regional Editor; ad – adult; Alt – Alternate plumage; Am. – American; arr – arrival or first of season; BBS – Breeding Bird Survey; BOTS – bird of the season; CBC – Christmas Bird Count; CO – confirmed nesting; Com. – Common; E. – Eastern; FL – fledgling; FY – adult feeding young; I – Island; imm – immature; intro – see introduction to report; juv – juvenile; L – Lake; max – maximum; mob – multiple observers; N. – Northern; NYSDEC – New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; NWR – National Wildlife Refuge; NYSARC – report to New York State Avian Records Committee; P – park; Pd – Pond; ph – photographed; Pt – Point; Res – Reservoir; Ri – River; SP – State Park; spm – specimen; subad – subadult; T – Town of; thru – throughout period; Twn – township; W. – Western; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; y – young.

REPORTING REGIONS

Regional boundaries coincide with county lines, except at:

Region 1-Region 2 in Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming Counties:

the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia;
NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19
from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County:

the boundary is Mud Creek to NY Route 64, NY Route 64
from Bristol Center to S. Bristol Springs, and Route 21
from S. Bristol Springs to the Yates County line.

Region 3-Region 5 in Cayuga County:

the boundary is NY Route 31.

REPORTING DEADLINES

Winter Season: December, January, February

Deadline is 7 March

Spring Season: March, April, May

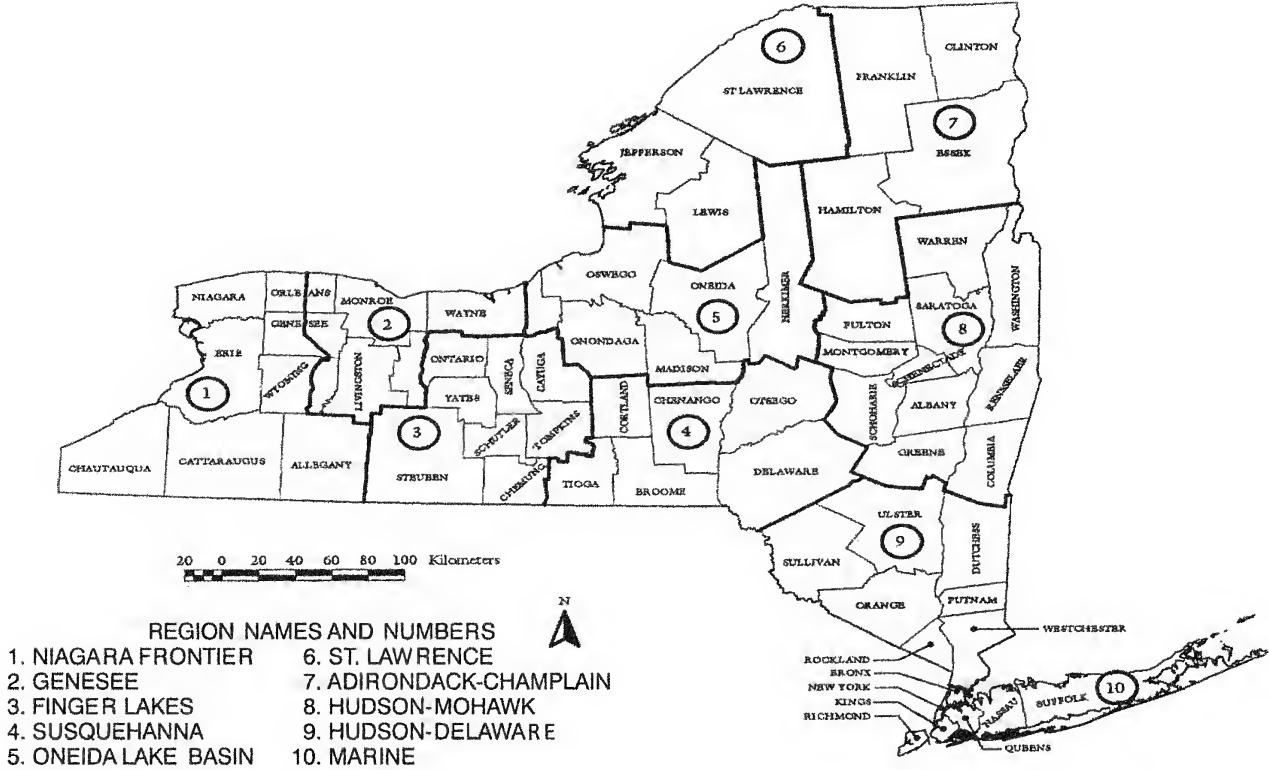
Deadline is 7 June

Summer Season: June, July, August

Deadline is 7 September

Fall Season: September, October, November

Deadline is 7 December



Editor of *The Kingbird*

Shaibal S. Mitra
Biology Dept., College of Staten Island
2800 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314

Editor of *New York Birders*

Cyndy and Richard Tkachuck
1406 Clover Leaf Road, Locke, NY 13092

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Send reports to:

Gary Chapin, Secretary for NYSARC
486 High St., Victor, NY 14564; nysarc3@nybirds.org

New York State Young Birders Club:

Carena Pooth, Chair—22 Brothers Rd., Poughquag, NY 12570

Publications:

Shaibal S. Mitra, Biology Dept., College of Staten Island
2800 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314

Publicity:

Kathryn Schneider, Chair—16 Frisbee Ln., Stuyvesant, NY 12173

Research:

Victor Lamoureux, Chair—885 Bunn Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850

Waterfowl Count:

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Web Site and Information Services:

Carena Pooth—22 Brothers Rd., Poughquag, NY 12570

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